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Message to the Taliban



MUSTAFA NAJAFIZADA/AP

An Afghan election worker carries a ballot box from a truck at a warehouse of the Independent Elections Commission in Mazar-i-Sharif, capital of the Balkh province, Afghanistan, on Sunday.

Voter turnout high in many areas despite insurgents' threats

BY JOSH SMITH
AND HEATH DRUZIN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL — The long lines outside many polling stations in Afghanistan for Saturday's crucial presidential election not only raised hopes for the country's future, but for many represented an embarrassing setback to the Taliban, which had vowed to disrupt



Ballot
in the
balance

the vote.

The day was not bloodless. At least 20 people were killed in vio-

lence across the country Saturday, among them seven military personnel, nine police and four civilians, Afghan Interior Minister Mohammad Umer Daudzai told reporters. And in many rural areas, turnout was reported to be nearly nonexistent as residents cited fears of the Taliban.

But the fact that the Taliban were apparently unable, or unwilling in the face of heavy secu-

urity presence, to project violence or intimidation beyond their traditional strongholds was seen by many Afghans as a blow to the insurgent group, at least in the war of perceptions.

Not only Afghans pinned their hopes on the election. U.S. and NATO leaders also hailed the relatively high turnout and mostly

SEE MESSAGE ON PAGE 5

US to send 2 more destroyers to Japan

Hagel also issues
warning to China

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel delivered a two-pronged warning to Asia Pacific nations Sunday, announcing that the U.S. will send two additional destroyers to Japan to counter the North Korean threat, and saying China must better respect its neighbors.

In unusually forceful remarks about China, Hagel drew a direct line between Russia's takeover of Ukraine's

Crimea region and the ongoing territorial disputes among China, Japan and others.

"I think we're seeing some clear evidence

of a lack of respect and intimidation and coercion in Europe today with what the Russians have done with Ukraine," Hagel told reporters after a meeting with Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera. "We must be very careful and we must be very clear, all nations of the world, that in the 21st century this will not stand. You cannot go around the world and redefine boundaries and violate territorial integrity and sovereignty of nations by force, coercion and intimidation whether it's in small islands in the Pacific or large nations in Europe."

'Coercion, intimidation is a very deadly thing that leads only to conflict.'

Chuck Hagel
defense secretary

SEE DESTROYERS ON PAGE 2

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's a calculated bet with tens of millions of dollars on the line, and in some cases, their lives. Afghanistan has never been for the fainthearted."

— International Crisis Group analyst Graeme Smith, on how more Afghans are clamoring to get into politics, but that in districts where elections are largely bought, the price per vote is going up

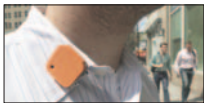
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MILITARY

Destroyers: Ships a reply to 'provocative' N. Korean acts

FROM THE FRONT

Hagel, who will travel to China later this week, called the Asian nation a "great power," and added, "With this power comes new and wider responsibilities as to how you use that power, how you employ that military power."

He said he will talk to the Chinese about having respect for their neighbors, and said, "coercion, intimidation is a very deadly thing that leads only to conflict. All nations, all people deserve respect, no matter how large or how small."

Still, he said he looks forward to having an honest, straightforward dialogue with the Chinese to talk about ways the two nations and their militaries can work better together.

The announcement of the deployments of additional destroyers to Japan came as tensions with North Korea spiked again, with Pyongyang continuing to threaten additional missile and nuclear tests.

In recent weeks, the North has conducted a series of rocket and ballistic-missile launches that are considered acts of protest against annual ongoing spring-time military exercises by Seoul and Washington. North Korea says the exercises are rehearsals for invasion.

North and South Korea also fired hundreds of artillery shells into each other's waters in late March in the most recent flare-up.

Standing alongside Onodera at the Defense Ministry, Hagel said they discussed the threat posed by Pyongyang. He said the two ships are in response to North Korea's "pattern of provocative and destabilizing actions" that violate U.N. resolutions and also will provide more protection to the U.S. from those threats.

On Friday, North Korea accused the U.S. of being "hell-bent on regime change" and warned that any maneuvers with that intention will be viewed as a "red line" that will result in counter-

measures. Pyongyang's deputy U.N. ambassador, Ri Tong Il, also said his government "made it very clear we will carry out a new form of nuclear test" but refused to provide details.

The two additional ships would bring the total to seven U.S. ballistic missile defense warships in Japan, and it continues U.S. efforts to increase its focus on the Asia-Pacific region.

The ships serve as both defensive and offensive weapons. They carry sophisticated systems that can track missile launches, and their SM-3 missiles can zero in on and take out short- to medium-range missiles that might be fired at U.S. or allied nations. They also can carry Tomahawk cruise missiles, which can be launched from sea to hit high-value targets or enemy weapons systems from afar without risking pilots or aircraft.

Hagel is on a 10-day trip across the Asia-Pacific region, and just spent three days in Hawaii meeting with Southeast Asian defense

ministers, talking about efforts to improve defense and humanitarian assistance cooperation. Japan is his second stop, and he said he wants to assure Japanese leaders that the U.S. is strongly committed to protecting their country's security.

Japan and China have been engaged in a long, bitter dispute over remote islands in the East China Sea. The U.S. has said it takes no side on the question of the disputed islands' sovereignty, but it recognizes Japan's administration of them and has responsibilities to protect Japanese territory under a mutual defense treaty.

Onodera said he and Hagel talked about the islands, known as Senkaku by Japan and Diaoyu by China, and the concerns about any changes to the status quo there.

Hagel said the U.S. wants the countries in the region to resolve the disputes peacefully. He added that the United States would honor its treaty commitments.

Kennedy: Servicewomen 'inspiration' for girls

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — As the first female U.S. ambassador to Japan, Caroline Kennedy says she feels a duty to set the standard for the women who will follow in her footsteps.

Out of 149 diplomatic missions in Tokyo, only 15 are headed by women, Kennedy told a gathering largely made up of American and Japanese women at the Yokota Enlisted Club on Friday. Kennedy, who arrived in Japan in November, was speaking at a Women's History Month event that focused on the progress made by women in the U.S. and Japanese militaries.

"As the first woman to serve as U.S. ambassador to Japan, people are watching me," she said. "If I screw it up, not only will it reflect on me, it will hurt the chances of future women."

Women can perform 95 percent of jobs in the U.S. military, but they are still only 15 percent of the active-duty force, said Kennedy, the daughter of former President John F. Kennedy.

"Recent times have brought far-reaching change for women in the military," she said. "This month, 33,000 positions previously closed to women will open."



Kennedy

Kennedy highlighted the efforts of servicemembers such as Capt. Heidi Pallister, who serves with the 374th Operations Support Squadron at Yokota. Pallister deployed numerous times to Afghanistan, Iraq and Africa and received the Combat Action Medal for helping evade direct enemy fire on one mission.

Capt. Dominique Haig recently led Yokota's humanitarian response to one of the strongest typhoons ever recorded — Typhoon Haiyan — in the Philippines. Senior Master Sergeant Adaly Lightsey, one of Yokota's highest-ranking enlisted women, recently returned from a deployment to Afghanistan, where she led remotely piloted aircraft personnel and governed \$333 million in surveillance assets, Kennedy said.

The women at Yokota also heard about the progress of their sisters in the Japanese

military.

Maj. Gen. Keiko Kashiwara, a retired Japan Air Self Defense Force general, said the first woman to serve in Japan 40 years ago were confined to desk jobs.

"Women with inspirations to become pilots and maintainers were disappointed or frustrated," Kashiwara said.

Today there are much more opportunities, although some positions, such as fighter pilots, are still a male preserve in Japan, Kashiwara said.

"I'm hoping that in the very near future in the JASDF, we are going to see female pilots," she said.

Chiaki Mukai, the first Japanese woman to enter space, was in the audience.

"I watched her launch on the (space) shuttle many years ago," Kennedy said.

After the speeches, civilian employee Karen Bradley recalled the impact that the assassination of President Kennedy had on them when they were young.

"She has suffered a lot of tragedy with her family, but she's a great example," Bradley said of Ambassador Kennedy. "She has been a positive role model for American women."

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MILITARY

Wounded Fort Hood major continued to help others

By JENNIFER HLAD
Stars and Stripes

FORT HOOD, Texas — As investigators continue to canvass a crime scene an area the size of two city blocks, details are emerging about the bravery soldiers displayed Wednesday when one of their own began shooting.

Maj. Patrick Miller, an Iraq veteran from New York, heard the “pop, pop, pop” of gunfire and rushed to get his soldiers into a closed office as quickly as possible, U.S. Rep. John Carter said Saturday.

While Miller was trying to help others, he was shot “in the gut,” but he put pressure on his own wound and kept moving the soldiers behind a door, said Carter, R-Texas, calling Miller “a very courageous young man.”

Sgt. 1st Class Daniel M. Ferguson, who was killed in the shooting, saved others by blocking a door with his body, Carter said.

Friday, Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, commander of III Corps and Fort Hood, said a chaplain also stepped in to shield and save other soldiers.

Investigators now believe an argument Span. Ivan A. Lopez had with his superiors, which report-



Memorial flags have been planted near Fort Hood's visitors' center and main gate.

edly involved a leave request, was the impetus for the shooting, Milley said.

Carter and U.S. Rep. Roger Williams, R-Texas, met with survivors of the shooting on Saturday morning. Ten of the 16 wounded have been released from hospitals and returned to their units, Milley said.

This is the second mass shooting by a soldier in uniform at the enormous Army post, one of the largest military installations in the world. Maj. Nidal Hasan last year was convicted and sentenced to death for an attack in 2009 that killed 13 people and wounded 32 others.

Lopez bought the .45-caliber semi-automatic Smith & Wesson on March 1 at Guns Galore, the same Killeen, Texas, store where Hasan purchased the weapon he used in the 2009 shooting. Lopez has not been linked to any terrorist or extremist groups, and investigators do not believe he had a plan to target any of the victims, Milley and Chris Grey said Friday. Grey is spokesman for the Army's Criminal Investigation Command.

Still, Carter says he believes Hasan “planted the seed” for the most recent shooting.

“The man who wears your uniform is your battle buddy. You're supposed to be able to trust him,” Carter said, calling the shooting of soldiers by other soldiers “a punch in the kidneys” to all servicemembers.

Servicemembers “expect, and rightfully so, to be safe in their home and on this post,” Williams said.

Wednesday's shooting brought the danger and the risk of the combat zone right into Fort Hood.”

Carter and Williams are pushing a bill called the Honoring the Fort Hood Heroes Act, which would declare the 2009 shootings a terrorist attack and allow the ser-



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER HLAD/Stars and Stripes

The Central Christian Church of Killeen, Texas, near Fort Hood, created a memorial for the victims of Wednesday's shootings.

vicemembers wounded or killed to be awarded the Purple Heart, and for the civilians wounded or killed to receive the Secretary of

Defense Medal for the Defense of Freedom.

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Fort Hood shootings ignite debate over weapons on bases

By CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon and military leaders are dismissing calls to let troops arm themselves in case they need to fight off attacks from fellow servicemembers and others on military installations.

The debate was reignited by a soldier who illegally carried a handgun Wednesday onto Fort Hood, Texas, before murdering three people and injuring 16 more in the latest in a series of on-base mass shootings.

The assailant, Span. Ivan Lopez, who was being treated for psychological ailments, killed himself with his .45-caliber pistol when confronted by MPs several minutes after the incident began.

In the wake of the attack, some Republican lawmakers and pro-gun rights advocates have issued renewed calls for the military to reconsider or overturn policies that prevent troops from legally carrying their personal weapons on military installations.

During a press briefing on Thursday at Fort Hood, Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, said the policy needs to have a “thorough review” to look for “gaps” in the policies. Another Texas legislator, Rep. Steve Stockman, earlier this year introduced the “Safe Military Bases Act” to overturn Defense Department and Army policies that currently limit concealed carry on bases.

“This is the third mass shooting on a military base in five years, and it's because our trained soldiers aren't allowed to carry defensive weapons,” Stockman said in a written statement after the shooting. “Anti-gun activists have turned our mili-

tary bases into soft targets for killers.”

A similar call arose after earlier mass shooting events, including Army Maj. Nidal Hasan's attack at Fort Hood in 2009 that claimed 13 lives, and an attack by former sailor Aaron Alexis, who killed 12 people at the Washington Navy Yard in September.

But the Army is resisting suggestions that soldiers should be packing heat on bases when they're not at war.

“Although we carry arms quite regularly overseas when we're deployed on a regular basis, I believe back here in the United States, it's more appropriate that we leave it to that,” Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno said Thursday during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing.

“We have our military police and others that are armed, and I believe that's appropriate,” Odierno said. “That allows us the level of protection necessary.”

Rep. John Carter, a Texas Republican who chairs the House Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, said Saturday at Fort Hood that he supports completely the right to carry a concealed weapon with the proper permits.

“However,” Carter said, “Just like you have the right to let someone not to carry in the presence of your family, the Army has a right to say they don't want people carrying in the presence of their family. ... I think they have made the decision, both at the DOD level and the local level, that the right to carry is not in the best interest of soldiers, and I support the Army.”

Pentagon officials say the DOD took a close look at weapons policies after both the Hasan shooting and the Navy Yard shooting and decided a restrictive policy remained appropriate.

The DOD believes the current policy is simply safer, Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren said Friday.

In addition, the department does not want to bear potential costs and complications of weapons training and certification that might be required for personnel living on U.S. bases. Another problem could be the bureaucracy of background checks to ensure that servicemembers seeking to carry weapons aren't legally barred from doing so because of, for instance, past misdemeanor domestic violence convictions.

“There are a lot of barriers to this idea, and the department's position — and we've spelled this out before — is that we do not support it,” he said.

DOD in 1992 issued a directive to, according to the policy, “limit and control the carrying of firearms by DOD military and civilian personnel.” The policy makes exceptions for military operations, as well as for law enforcement and security personnel.

In addition to those categories, Army officials said personnel are also allowed to have personal weapons on base as long

as they are registered and stored in an approved weapons room. The registered weapons can be carried to shooting ranges, but can never be worn concealed.

The rules are different off post, however. Federal law prevents commanders from forcing troops to disclose or register weapons stored in off-base lodging, and other military rules for carrying weapons don't apply, either. Lopez had recently purchased his pistol at the Killeen gun shop where Hasan purchased the gun he used in his 2009 attack.

In a state like Texas, with comparatively liberal firearms laws and a large number of people permitted to carry concealed weapons, it creates a stark dichotomy between policies on base and off, economist and gun rights advocate John R. Lott said.

Lott, the author of research that links increased rates of concealed weapons carry to lower crime, has a son who serves in the Army at Fort Hood. His son heard the gunshots as Lopez attacked his victims Wednesday, Lott wrote in an opinion piece on the Fox News website.

“Ironically, my son is a concealed handgun permit holder,” Lott wrote. “He can carry a concealed handgun whenever he is off the Fort Hood base so that he can protect himself and others. But on the base he and his fellow soldiers are defenseless.”

Citing statistics on the growing numbers of civilian concealed-carry permit holders, he said military personnel deserve the same freedom.

“If civilians can be trusted with guns,” he wrote, “surely military personnel can be trusted.”

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AFGHAN ELECTION

Inheriting 'a water bucket with 35 holes'

Who would want dangerous, hard job of Afghan president?

By HEATH DRUZIN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL — Long hours, intractable problems after 35 years of war, a raging insurgency and the very real possibility of assassination — it bears asking, why would anyone want the job of president of Afghanistan?

"This is a time when foreign troops are leaving, international assistance will decrease dramatically, Afghanistan's economic problems will become much more, the drugs trade and other criminal activity will worsen, and security will worsen," said Ahmad Majidiyar, a research fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and a frequent adviser to the U.S. Army. "But if you see it from the view of Afghans, they are much more optimistic about their future than people here in the West."

Only time will tell if that optimism is misguided. The last time foreign troops left Afghanistan, the new, Soviet-backed president, Mohammad Najibullah, spoke of a new beginning and offered reconciliation to his enemies. He ended up castrated, dragged to death behind a truck and his blood-soaked body hung on public display.

Even if history does not repeat, there's no doubt that president of Afghanistan is one of the most dangerous jobs in the world. President Hamid Karzai, who has led Afghanistan since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion to oust the Taliban, has been the target of multiple assassination attempts and plots. Whoever succeeds him is likely to become more of a target with the withdrawal of NATO troops, who have had a large role in protecting the president.

There is more that goes into the calculation of running for office in Afghanistan than a sense of duty or patriotism. There's power, adoring crowds attending pre-election rallies by the tens of thousands. There's also the lure of becoming the leader who takes the country from chaos to stability and rights a ship that many feel Karzai has left listing at a critical moment.

There are potentially more sinister reasons, too. In a country that has ranked last on Transparency International's corruption index for two consecutive years, the post also offers the opportu-

nity for the winner to become very rich. Though the presidential salary is a meager \$525 per month, Karzai and his family are thought to have amassed a considerable fortune during his time as president.

What motivates the major candidates and how that plays out when one of them takes office could be key — both to Afghanistan's struggle to emerge from three decades of nonstop war as a stable, democratic nation, and to the legacy of the U.S.-led military intervention in Afghanistan, which has dragged on for 12½ years and has become deeply unpopular among Americans.

With Karzai constitutionally banned from seeking a third term, the election marks the first democratic transfer of power in the country's history.

"It's hugely important," said Kate Clark, analyst with the Kabul-based Afghanistan Analysts Network. "Hopefully, it will institutionalize the idea that you have political change without assassination, revolution or war."

Eight candidates are competing for the task of leading Afghanistan, though only four are seen as having a chance at victory: Abdullah Abdullah, the runner-up to Karzai in the bitterly contested, fraud-marred 2009 contest; Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, a technocrat and former finance minister; Zalmay Rassoul, former foreign minister and Karzai's presumed favorite; and Abdul Rasoul Sayraf, an Islamist and former warlord accused of wartime atrocities who has tried to remake himself into a more moderate candidate.

Stars and Stripes reporters spoke to either the candidates or officials from all four campaigns about their reasons for running, and their answers were similar. They said they are running for the good of the country and out of a sense of patriotism and duty.

"One has to take on challenges in this country in order to overcome those challenges," Abdullah said. "Yes, life would be much easier if somebody didn't make all these efforts and take care of their personal life rather than trying to serve the people. It's a very challenging task."



HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

A voter opens his ballot in Kabul on Saturday during Afghanistan's presidential election.

Rassoul spokesman Javed Faisal struck a similar tone.

"As an Afghan or as a resident of a country, you are supposed to work for the good of your country in order to ensure a better future, a better tomorrow," he said.

Some analysts take a dimmer view of their motivations.

"(The candidates) don't understand that being a president is a very hard job and you will have to deal with a lot of problems in this country because there is still bloodshed," Afghan independent political analyst Mohammad Younis Fakoor said. "These people just think they will have power and grab a lot of money and that's why they are running. But after one of them wins and inherits a water bucket with 35 holes, I don't think he will be able to fix it, and he will suffer."

Despite the deeply entrenched problems in Afghanistan, the candidates attribute much of the mess to Karzai's mismanagement and his acrimonious relationship with the West, said Majidiyar, the American Enterprise Institute researcher.

"They think the problems are due to Karzai's incompetence and they believe that if they are elected they can do a better job and

steer Afghanistan toward stability," he said.

That desire to be in politics seems to be spreading.

Graeme Smith, the International Crisis Group's top analyst in Afghanistan, has spent years in Kandahar province, where being an elected official is especially dangerous. He said not only are more Afghans clamoring to get into politics, but that in districts where elections are largely bought, the price per vote is actually going up.

"So I asked (Kandaharis), 'Who not only wants to become a politician, but pays good money to become one?'" he said. "And they said, 'Well, these people believe that the state will survive.' It's a calculated bet with tens of millions of dollars on the line, and in some cases, their lives. Afghanistan has never been for the fainthearted."

Like in most elections, there has been plenty of deal-making behind the scenes. Major endorsements are rewarded with promises of Cabinet posts or other prominent positions, especially those that are potentially lucrative. Promises of money or projects to certain tribes can deliver whole districts to a candidate.

In Afghanistan, the concept of a "free and fair" election means "free and fair enough." There will almost certainly be blatant violations such as vote-buying and ballot stuffing, but also tactics, such as elders guaranteeing votes for entire villages, that would raise eyebrows in the West but aren't necessarily seen as problematic in Afghanistan. The key is not whether or not there is cheating, it's what kind, how much, and its effect on the outcome, analysts say.

"Fraud is inevitable," Clark said. Afghans and the country's international backers can accept some irregularities, as long as they are spread among the main candidates and don't appear to tip the balance of the election.

"The issue for me is whether it's blatantly one-sided, if the state machine is used for one candidate, and will it be enough to change the election," she said. "Also, if the results are close, accusations of fraud could cause serious problems with the legitimacy of any new leader."

Stars and Stripes reporter Josh Smith and Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report.
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AFGHAN ELECTION

Message: Voting seen as challenge to Taliban

FROM THE FRONT

peaceful balloting as a sign of Afghans' commitment to a democratic future and as Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel put it, "a testament to the tireless efforts and sacrifices of American, ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) and Afghan personnel." The role of the Western-trained Afghan security forces was key, said Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford, commander of the ISAF, who described their efforts to secure the elections as "extraordinary."

In taking stock of what the election means for the country and the Taliban insurgency, what is clear is that much remains unclear.

Analysts and officials cautioned that it is too soon to draw major conclusions from an election day that could see the first democratic transfer of power in Afghanistan's history. The votes remain untallied, and allegations of fraud remain uncounted and unconfirmed.

Nevertheless, election day offered encouraging signs.

About 7 million people voted, according to election commission officials, which, barring massive fraud, would mark about a 50 percent increase over the validated votes from 2009. In that election, more than 1 million votes were thrown out, and President Hamid Karzai's main challenger, Abdul-bah Abdullah, quit in disgust before a scheduled runoff. Nearly 1,000 of roughly 7,300 polling centers were closed Saturday because of security fears. Of those, most were in more rural areas, election officials said.

There were few surprises on the preliminary lists of areas where low turnout and allegations of fraud were reported, most of them in traditional Taliban strongholds where intimidation is a powerful tactic and sympathy for the insurgent movement often lingers.

Taliban claims

Judging by the dozens of Tweets sent throughout election day and two lengthy messages condemning the election, the Taliban were closely watching the vote. Their post-election press release claimed that Afghans boycotted the election en masse and that the Taliban launched more than 1,000 successful attacks.

Voters and the Afghan government largely rejected the Taliban's claims.

Many voters saw the election as a direct challenge to the Taliban, and plenty of ink-stained middle fingers (which the insurgent group threatened to cut off) were aimed at the Taliban in photos posted on Twitter, though the tweets represented the minority of Afghans

Post-election dates of note in Afghanistan

After Saturday's historic presidential vote in Afghanistan, the country faces a long process ahead before Afghans know who their next leader will be. Here's what happens next:

■ April 6 - 20. Votes are counted.

■ April 24. Preliminary results to be announced by the Independent Election Commission.

■ April 27. Deadline for candidates to file complaints about election irregularities.

■ May 7. Deadline for the Independent Election Complaints Commission

to adjudicate election complaints.

■ May 8. Election Complaints Commission makes final decisions on complaints.

■ May 14. Independent Election Commission to announce final results.

■ May 28. Tentative date for a runoff election between top two vote-getters if no candidate has won more than 50 percent in the first round of the election.

SOURCE: The Independent Election Commission

— for their position or capabilities or military strength or position on peace talks — it's a bit early to call," van Bijlert said.

For many Afghans, the debate over Taliban capabilities may be largely academic. Insecurity remains the top national concern for Afghans in general, according to a study released in December by the Asia Foundation, which surveyed more than 9,000 Afghans across every province. But corruption is a close second, and when asked what the biggest local problems were, insecurity was fifth, after more everyday issues like unemployment, electricity supply, roads and the availability of drinking water.

A growing divide

The large, enthusiastic turnout in cities — when contrasted with reports of low turnout and violence in rural areas — highlighted a growing divide between the more

with access to social media.

Samir Yousafzai, a journalist who has spent years covering the Taliban in Pakistan, said the election turnout was likely to hurt the Taliban, especially given the initial reports of a large show of voters in Kandahar, the group's spiritual birthplace.

"Overall, I think the nationwide election was a slap on the face of the Taliban because the people [rejected] the 'Taliban mind-set,'" he said. "After this election, I don't see much future for the Taliban."

A mid-level Taliban commander in Helmand province echoed the Taliban leadership's claim that widely reported large turnout was Western propaganda and said the insurgents saw a victory simply in forcing the Afghan military to mobilize its entire force across the country to protect the vote.

"It was an economic loss for the government and a victory for us," he said. "Even though the election was not important for us, we were able to make problems for the government."

Yousafzai said the Taliban are capable of continuing a low-grade insurgency indefinitely and likely to increase attacks after the election. He said it's still key for the next government to try to restart peace talks and that the Taliban is likely to enter such talks in a weakened position.

"It's still important to bring them into the political process," he said.

Martine van Bijlert, co-director of the Kabul-based Afghanistan Analysts Network, cautioned against drawing conclusions too early about the effect of the elections on the insurgent group. For starters, she said, it's unclear if their efforts to disrupt the election were thwarted or if they simply pulled back, waiting for a better opportunity when Afghan security forces are not on such high alert.

"If they had hoped this election would be a huge propaganda victory for them, that didn't happen. But what that means long term



HEATH DRUZZIN/Stars and Stripes

A man inspects ballot boxes at a storage facility at Afghanistan's Independent Election Commission on Sunday

secure and affluent urban populations and the rural regions where as much as three-quarters of Afghans are estimated to live. And it underscored that corruption still could undermine the election even if the Taliban could not.

"What we saw with the euphoric turnout in the cities and the painful silence in many rural areas illustrates the divide that is ripping the country apart," said Graeme Smith, a senior analyst for the International Crisis Group. "This will be the central challenge for the next president — to bring those rural areas into the fold."

If the Afghan government falters in the coming years, it may be more due to its own failings than any particular success by the Taliban, analysts say.

Malik Niaz Mohammed, a tribal leader in Nangarhar province just east of Kabul, said the people in his area are willing to support the government, but are turned off by what they see as rampant corruption and inefficiency.

That view was echoed by Mohammed Elyas, a college student in Jalalabad, who asserted

that government programs that brought schools, roads and clinics to the area won may people over, but that that support is often undermined by what residents see as a failure to crack down on corruption or to rein in warlords.

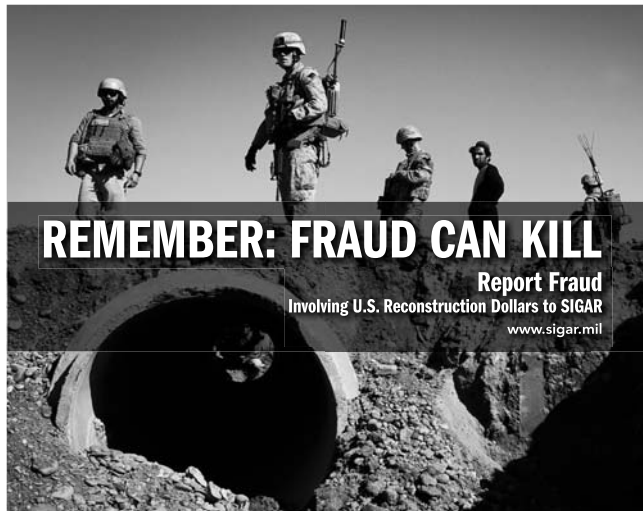
"Even a government dog is better than the Taliban," he said. "But on their main responsibility of security and peace, the government has failed."

Whether Karzai's successor can change that remains to be seen.

Now that the first round of presidential voting is finished, a long process of counting and sorting out complaints begins. The winner may not be announced for weeks, and even then, it's likely none of the eight candidates will win a majority, which would mean a second round of voting.

Already, the major candidates have made mention of possible fraud, jockeying for position as what is sure to be a contested count gets underway.

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report.
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MILITARY

6 USAF generals switching posts overseas

Stars and Stripes

The Air Force announced a series of assignments Friday involving general officers overseas, including a swap of commanders in Hawaii and Italy.

Maj. Gen. Paul H. McGillicuddy, chief of staff for Pacific Air Forces at Joint Base Pearl-Harbor Hickham, will become vice commander of PACAF. He will be replaced by Brig. Gen. Jon A. Norman, commander of the 31st Fighter Wing at Aviano Air Base, Italy.

Taking over the Aviano wing will be Brig. Gen. Barre R. Seguin, currently inspector general for Air Combat Command at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

In other moves announced Friday, Brig. Gen. John L. Dolan, assistant deputy commander of U.S. Air Force Central Command, will receive a second star and be-

come chief of staff for U.S. Pacific Command at Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii.

Brig. Gen. John T. Quintas, senior defense official and defense attaché to the United Kingdom, will become 380th Air Expeditionary Wing commander in southwest Asia. He is to replace Brig. Gen. Kevin B. Schneider, who will take Dolan's current position.

McGillicuddy has served as chief of staff for PACAF since July. The 1984 Air Force Academy graduate's past overseas assignments include stints at RAF Lakenheath, England, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, and Kunsan Air Base, South Korea.

Norman took over in Aviano in May. A 1986 Air Force Academy graduate, his past overseas assignments include two stints at Kunsan and one at Osan Air Base, South Korea.

Dolan, a 1986 graduate of the

University of Northern Colorado, assumed his current position in January 2013. His overseas assignments include two stints at Kunsan and one at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

Quintas, a 1988 Air Force Academy graduate, has held his current duties since August 2012 and has been assigned to England since 2008.

Schneider, a 1988 Air Force Academy graduate, took over his current duties in June. His overseas assignments include Osan, Kunsan, Spangdahlem and Misawa Air Base, Japan.

Seguin, a 1988 graduate of State University of New York, has past overseas assignments at Camp Casey, South Korea, Osan, Kunsan, Garmisch, Germany, and SHAPE, Belgium. He was a member of the 510th Fighter Squadron at Aviano from 1997 to 2000.

news@stripes.com



McGillicuddy



Seguin



Dolan



Quintas



Schneider



Norman

NATO reopens Kosovo airspace

By SLOBODAN LEKIC
Stars and Stripes

NATO has reopened Kosovo's upper airspace to commercial overflights for the first time since 1999, when the alliance occupied the former Serbian territory after a brief aerial war.

A NATO statement Friday said that the airspace above 28,000 feet could now be used by civilian traffic.

"The reopening of the upper airspace in Kosovo is a significant example of regional cooperation and a significant step that benefits the entire western Balkans," NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said in the statement.

For the past 15 years, commercial flights not headed to or from the international airport in the capital, Pristina, had to avoid flying over Kosovo, which is roughly the size of Connecticut.

Hungaracrolint, Hungary's national air navigation service provider, was granted control of the upper airspace, NATO said. Lower-level flights will remain under Pristina International Air-

port, which already provides air traffic control services for the two present approach corridors. According to the agreement, the alliance still retains overall authority over Kosovo's airspace.

For the past 15 years, commercial flights not headed to or from the international airport in Pristina had to avoid flying over Kosovo.

The closure was unpopular with numerous airlines flying between Western Europe and Turkey and the Middle East because it forced them to divert flights and burn more fuel to avoid infringing on military airspace.

Kosovo's Civil Aviation Authority also has been eager to get NATO to lift the restrictions, since overflight revenues are expected to be substantial once regular flight corridors are established.

Kosovo was a province of Serbia until 1999, when NATO seized control after a three-month bombing campaign of Serbia. The intervention was sparked by a brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing by Serbian forces against Kosovo's ethnic Albanian majority.

Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008, but Belgrade has refused to accept the split. Although it has been recognized by more than 100 nations — including the United States — it has not been allowed to join the United Nations or other international organizations.

NATO still has about 5,500 troops — nearly 800 of them Americans — in Kosovo to monitor security and freedom of movement. In the past, clashes between Serb hardliners and NATO-led peacekeepers have led to injuries on both sides. Tensions have abated significantly during the past year as the governments of Kosovo and Serbia have reached a series of agreements designed to normalize relations.

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Aviano airman is remembered at service

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — An airman who died last month during surgery at the base's hospital was remembered fondly Thursday by colleagues at a memorial service.

Staff Sgt. Heber N. Rosales, a maintenance supervisor with the 31st Munitions Squadron, died March 26. The 31st Fighter Wing declined to provide more information about the death, citing an investigation and privacy laws.

Rosales, 27, a native of El Paso, Texas, had prior assignments at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., and Osan Air Base in Korea, a news release said.

"Staff Sgt. Heber 'Rosie' Rosales will live on in the legacy he created to every airman that will carry on his example of excellence," Brig. Gen. Jon A. Norman, the wing commander, was quoted as saying at the service.

"Always give it your all and leave nothing on the table. Your legacy will be the memory of those who knew you," he said. "Make your memories count and care for more than you care for yourself. Take time to teach, to listen and to tell. If you do that, you will always honor the memory of Staff Sgt. Rosales."

The 18-bed, \$36.9 million hospital opened in June 2006. It does not offer emergency room services, referring patients who need urgent care to the nearby Italian hospital in Pordenone.

Aviano airman dies while hiking

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — An airman assigned to the 31st Munitions Squadron died Friday while hiking in the mountains above Aviano Air Base.

The 31st Fighter Wing identified him as Airman 1st Class Nicholas J. Nadeja, a line delivery crewmember.

"Airman 1st Class Nadeja was an outstanding airman and a valued member of our Aviano family," Brig. Gen. Jon A. Norman, the wing commander, said, according to a Wing news release. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and loved ones affected by this loss."

The wing provided no further information as to the cause of death on his age.

Nadeja is the second member of the squadron to die in the last 10 days. Staff Sgt. Heber N. Rosales died March 26 while undergoing treatment at the base hospital.

Stars and Stripes

Big changes ahead for Air Force Academy on its 60th anniversary

By TOM ROEDER

The Colorado Springs, Colo. Gazette

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Sixty years into its existence, the Air Force Academy is changing again.

This time, the biggest change is money. Planned Pentagon budget cuts of \$900 billion in the next decade will take their toll, with 99 job cuts and the elimination of 10 academic majors. But other moves are afoot.

This year, the public will get its first glimpses of the academy's Center for Character and Leadership Development, the biggest architectural addition to the school since Sijan Hall was built in the 1960s.

The academy is also re-examining its programs and procedures as it prepares to send cadets into an Air Force more focused on flexibility and electronics.

Leaders say there's something steady amid all that change, something that's been building since President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill to found the academy on April 1, 1954.

"We're doing something very consistent, and that's knowing what we're about — what we call our essence," said Lt. Gen. Michelle Johnson, who took over as the academy's first female superintendent in August.

The academy plans to mark the anniversary with a parade of cadets and a concert on the campus. It's a subdued celebration

for a time of austerity — one of a half-dozen downturns the school has faced.

That doesn't reflect a negative view of the academy's future. Leaders say the school and its 4,000 cadets will do big things well into the future.

"We'll stay great," Johnson pledged.

The optimism for the future comes from a strong grasp of how the academy has weathered an often turbulent past.

"It's neat to have this history and heritage," said senior cadet Reuben Luoma-Overstreet, who is the school's cadet wing commander and top-ranking upperclassman.

The Air Force was split from the Army in 1947 and began lobbying for its school that would give cadets character and leadership

lessons, academic rigor and a love for the sky.

It took seven years to coax Congress into approving the idea.

The school was set in Colorado Springs after a nationwide competition. Losing finalists were Alton, Ill., and Lake Geneva, Wis.

Just over a year later the academy, then temporarily at Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, welcomed its first cadets — the 306-member class of 1959.

They trained while the former ranch north of Colorado Springs was converted. Their first uniforms — still used in parades today — were designed by Hollywood icon Cecil B. DeMille.

MILITARY



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA L. DeMOTT/Stars and Stripes

Above: Parents and students study art forms exhibited by students from the Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Kaiserslautern district in Germany at a special exhibition at Kaiserslautern City Hall called "Art Shapes the World." The exhibit runs through May 2.

Right: Madeleine Hales, 7, poses for a portrait in front of her "Flamenco Dancer" colored-pencil drawing at the exhibit.



A colorful cardboard disc, left, and whimsical ceramic figures are among the artworks in the exhibit.

DODDS student art showcased

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Madeleine Hales likes to draw people, Paris, pools and "sometimes people drawing art." She sketches so often that her mother, Tami Hales, wasn't surprised that one of the Sembach Elementary School first-grader's drawings was selected for the Kaiserslautern area schools' art exhibit at Kaiserslautern City Hall.

"We call her our absent-minded artist," Hales said while attending the exhibit's opening night Thursday with her family. "She has a bunch of projects going all the time."

Madeleine's "Flamenco Dancer," drawn in colored pencil, is one of dozens of works of art on display at the "Art Shapes the World" exhibit, which includes pieces from 10 different DODDS-Europe schools in the Kaiserslautern district. The exhibit runs until May 2.

Parents and students mingled Thursday while admiring a variety of art forms, from ceramic birdhouses and bright-hued weavings to computer-graphic designs and watercolor paintings.

The Overseas Art Education Association, an overseas branch of the National Art Education Association that represents Department of Defense Dependents Schools in Europe and the Pacific, has been organizing the annual exhibit for the past 25 years, said Terese Sarno, the overseas association's president and a third-grade teacher at Ramstein Intermediate School.

"We want to showcase our children's artistic abilities," she said. "It gives them a wonderful feeling to see their work on display and

To view a photo gallery of the annual art exhibit, go to: stars.com

have people admire their work." Many of the exhibits over the years have been held at the City Hall, a centrally located venue that gives the German community a chance to "share in our work," Sarno said.

DODDS art teachers selected the work of about 100 students to present, Sarno said.

Haley Chappell, a sixth-grader at Landstuhl Elementary-Middle School, said she felt proud to have her micrography design chosen for the show. The project involved the students making an image of themselves out of black ink words "that describe what we like to do," Haley said.

A glance at Haley's piece reveals a kid who likes to shop, buy shoes and dance, and who is also fond of stars, dots and popcorn.

Haley said she enjoys art because of "all the interesting things that we do."

The exhibit at City Hall is free of charge. The venue is closed on German holidays and weekends.

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Tribute to honor Iraq, Afghan war dead

By MICHAEL E. RUANE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The first name that will be read at the ceremony during Memorial Day weekend is that of Evander Earl Andrews.

A small-town boy, he had left his parents' home in central Maine, joined the Air Force and on Oct. 10, 2001, became the first military person reported killed in the post-9/11 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. His mother, Mary, 71, said Friday that she never thought his death would be followed by 6,700 more.

On May 24, Andrews' name and the names of the others killed in the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will be read aloud chronologically for the first time in a tribute at the Vietnam War Memorial Fund.

The ceremony will open at 9

a.m. on the east knoll of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the reading will run from about 10 a.m. to about 5:40 p.m., the fund said.

Those interested can register to read names starting at 8 a.m. on April 14 at vwmf.org/rotn. People will be asked to read 15 names at a time.

"Last month was the first month that no American was killed in Afghanistan" since the start of the war there, said Jan Scruggs, president of the fund and the creator of the memorial and its wall.

"It just seemed like the time was right to do this," he said. "And the Vietnam veterans are the ones who have to do this. We're not going to let happen to these people what happened to us."

"This will provide them some recognition," he said. "This will be a way for the nation to honor the war dead."

The event is sponsored by, among others, the memorial fund, the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America and the American Gold Star Mothers of America. The names will include in-theater hostile and nonhostile deaths, the fund said.

Andrews, for example, was reportedly killed in Qatar in a forklift accident while building a runway. He was an Air Force master sergeant.

On five previous occasions, the fund has hosted the reading of the 58,000 names of those killed in Vietnam and listed on the wall. That program takes 19 hours a day over four days, Scruggs said.

Such readings are "another step in the process, if you will, of a nation going to war" and coming home again, said David Petraeus, a retired Army general who served as the top U.S. commander in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

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NATION

Obama to act on US pay issues

By JIM KUHNHEINEN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lacking congressional backing to raise wages or end gender pay disparities, President Barack Obama is imposing his policies directly on federal contractors, following a long-established tradition of presidents exerting their powers on a fraction of the economy directly under their control.

This week, the president will sign an executive order that would prohibit federal contractors from retaliating against employees who discuss their pay with each other. The prohibition on the wage "gag rules" is similar to language in a Senate bill aimed at closing a pay gap between men and women. The legislation is scheduled for a vote this week, though it is not likely to pass.

In addition, Obama on Tuesday will direct the Labor Department to adopt regulations requiring federal contractors to provide compensation data based on sex and race. The president will sign the executive order and the presidential memo during an event at the White House where he will be joined by Lilly Ledbetter, whose name appears on a pay discrimination law Obama signed in 2009.

This week's steps showcase Obama's efforts to take action without congressional approval and illustrate how even without legislation, the president can drive policy on a significant segment of the U.S. economy. At the same time, it also underscores the limits of his ambition when he doesn't have the backing of



President Barack Obama works at his desk in the Oval Office of the White House on Jan. 27. Obama is using executive orders to address workforce pay parity issues.

Congress for his initiatives.

Republicans maintain that Obama is pushing his executive powers too far and that he should do more to work with Congress. His new executive orders are sure to prompt criticism that he is placing an undue burden on companies and increasing their costs.

Federal contracting covers about one-quarter of the U.S. workforce and includes companies ranging from Boeing to small parts suppliers and service providers. As a result, presidential directives can have a wide and direct impact. Such actions also can be largely symbolic, designed to spur action in the broader economy.

"This really is about giving people access to more information both to help them make decisions at the policy level but also for individuals," said Heather Boushey, executive director and chief economist at the Washington Center for Equitable Growth, who has been working with the administration to get compensation

information about the nation's workforce.

"This is definitely an encouraging first step," she said.

Federal contractors worry that additional compensation data could be used to fuel wage-related lawsuits, said James Plunkett, director of labor policy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

What's more, he said, such orders create a two-tiered system where rules apply to federal contractors but not to other employers. Those contractors, knowing that their business relies on the government, are less likely to put up a fight, he said.

"Federal contractors ultimately know that they have to play nicely to a certain extent with the federal government," he said.

Separately, on Monday, Obama will announce the 24 schools that will share in more than \$100 million in grants to redesign their schools to better prepare high school students for college or for careers. The awards are part of an executive order Obama signed last year.

Speech, marriage rights in conflict

The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The resignation of Mozilla's CEO amid outrage that he supported an anti-gay marriage campaign is prompting concerns about how Silicon Valley's strongly liberal culture might quash the very openness that is at the region's foundation.

Mozilla co-founder Brendan Eich stepped down Thursday as CEO, just days after his appointment. He left the nonprofit maker of the Firefox browser after furious attacks, largely on Twitter, over his \$1,000 contribution to support of a now-overturned 2008 gay-marriage ban in California.

"There was no interest in creating an Internet lynch mob," OKCupid co-founder Sam Yagun, whose site was among those engaged in online protest, said Friday. "I am opposed to that with every bone in my body."

Eich's abrupt departure has stirred the debate over the fairness of forcing out a qualified technology executive over his personal views and a campaign contribution six years ago. And it raises questions about how far corporate leaders are allowed to go in expressing political views.

Some are also questioning whether the episode undercuts the image of Silicon Valley as a marketplace of ideas and diversity of thought and whether the tech world surrendered to political correctness enforced through a public shaming on social media.

Yagun said he wished he had raised the boycott in a slightly different light.

"I would have loved to have engaged in a debate over what happens when freedoms collide," Yagun said. "We have freedom of speech, which I would defend to the end. And we have what I believe is a fundamental liberty of people to marry and love whoever they want. We took a stand that matters to us personally and as a business — and I think the world will be a better place because of it."



Eich

Poll shows troubling signs for Obama, Dems

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The latest Associated Press-GfK poll shows bad news for President Barack Obama, and as the November elections draw closer, there are ominous signs for congressional Democrats as well.

Here is a look at key findings from the March poll:

■ Preferences for control of Congress are tight, but Republicans have gained on Democrats since January. Thirty-six percent in last month's poll said they would rather see the Democrats in charge of Congress and 37 percent chose Republicans. Democrats held a narrow advantage on that question in January, when 39 per-

cent favored the Democrats and 32 percent the Republicans.

■ Registered voters who are most strongly interested in politics favored the Republicans by 14 percentage points, 51 percent to 37 percent. In January, this group was about evenly split.

■ Favorable views of the Republican Party have improved, with 38 percent overall now saying they hold a favorable impression of the party. Republicans' positive view of their own party has increased from 57 percent in January to 72 percent now.

■ Congressional approval is stagnant and negative, with just 16 percent saying they approve while 82 percent disapprove.

Among those who have "a great deal" or "quite a bit" of interest in politics, 90 percent disapprove, including 61 percent who strongly disapprove.

■ Nearly 4 in 10 (39 percent) would like to see their own member of Congress re-elected, an improvement since January.

■ Those who consider themselves Democrats are now more likely than Republicans to say their own member of Congress ought to be re-elected. Not all Democrats live in districts represented by Democrats, of course, but it represents a shift in opinion since January.

■ Six in 10 (62 percent) of those with a great deal or quite a bit of

interest in politics say Obama has a lot or quite a bit of control of what the federal government does. Just half (51 percent) of those closely attuned to politics say Democrats in Congress exert a similar influence over what the federal government does, and 40 percent say the same about Republicans in Congress.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted March 20-24, 2014, using KnowledgePanel, GfK's probability-based online panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. It involved online interviews with 1,012 adults and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for all respondents.

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NATION

Navy rescues family with sick baby aboard sailboat

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — U.S. sailors rescued a family with an ill 1-year-old baby from a disabled sailboat hundreds of miles off the Mexican coast and were headed Sunday to San Diego to get the girl medical treatment.

The girl, along with her parents and 3-year-old sister, were helped onto an inflatable raft and then were taken aboard the USS Vandergift at 8 a.m. Sunday. The baby girl was in stable condition and was heading to San Diego for medical treatment, the Coast Guard said in a news release.

Charlotte and Eric Kaufman were two weeks into their trip to sail the world when their daughter, Lyra, developed a fever and a rash covering most of her body

and wasn't responding to medications. Then, their 36-foot sailboat lost steering and communication abilities about 900 miles off Mexico. They sent a satellite call for help to the U.S. Coast Guard on Thursday.

The California Air National Guard dispatched four rescuers, who parachuted into the water and reached the disabled vessel. The team was able to stabilize the girl and pointed the sailboat, which does not have steering or communication abilities, toward Mexico, the 129th Rescue Wing said in a statement.

The rescuers stayed aboard the Rebel Heart to keep watch on the ill child until daylight, when sailors helped them board the Navy frigate.

Before the family left, Lyra had

salmonella poisoning, but doctors cleared her to travel after she was healthy again, said Charlotte Kaufman's sister, Sariah Kay English.

English initially was in daily email contact with the family but realized something was wrong when the communication stopped several days ago.

English said she was told the vessel took on water every time the motor was turned on. It's now moving slowly, using only the sails.

When her sister first mentioned plans to sail with two young children, English recalled, "I thought it was nuts."

But English said the couple were always careful. Eric Kaufman is a Coast Guard-licensed captain who introduced sailing to Char-



PROVIDED BY SARIAH ENGLISH/AP

Eric and Charlotte Kaufman hold their daughters, Lyra, 1, and Cora, 3. Their boat was about 900 nautical miles southwest of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, when they sent a satellite call for help to the U.S. Coast Guard on Thursday morning saying Lyra was ill.

lotte Kaufman during one of their early dates.

"They were not going into this blind. I knew they were doing this wisely," English said.

English said the couple made a network of friends who traveled

around the globe with children and always stocked the sailboat with more food than they need.

"They were very overcautious. They're not new at sailing," English said. Unfortunately, "sickness sometimes happens."

Immigration advocates decry deportation in rallies across US

By TERRY TANG
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Immigration advocates and supporters rallied Saturday in cities across the country in a renewed effort to push President Barack Obama to put a freeze on deportations.

Organizers of the more than 50 planned "Day of Action" demonstrations said Obama has the executive power to stop deportations that separate immigrants living in the country illegally from their loved ones.

In Eloy, Ariz., more than 100 supporters converged in front of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention center after journeying more than 60 miles from Phoenix.

Nataly Cruz, an organizer with

the grassroots group Puente Arizona, said many of the people in attendance have relatives who have been inside the facility for more than a year.

"We want President Obama and his administration to really hear our community members across the country, to understand we do not want one more person separated," said Cruz, who entered the U.S. illegally with her parents at age 8. "One family every night goes to bed missing somebody in their family."

Many walked with signs saying "Not 1 More Deportation" and calling for deferred deportation action for all. The group included a woman whose son has been in the Eloy Detention Center for nearly three years and a woman who was

arrested at her work and detained for two months, the group said.

The Eloy Police Department had about five officers monitoring the rally. Sgt. Brian Jerome said the demonstration was relatively peaceful, with no arrests.

Amber Cargile, an ICE spokeswoman in Phoenix, said the agency respects the rights of people to protest outside its facilities.

"While we continue to work with Congress to enact commonsense immigration reform, ICE remains committed to sensible, effective immigration enforcement that focuses on its priorities, including convicted criminals and those apprehended at the border while attempting to unlawfully enter the United States," Cargile said.

More than 50 people, includ-

ing families with children, stood in front of a federal immigration office in New York City. Among them was Humayun Chowdhury, 47, a cab driver who said his family suffered immensely when authorities held him for 14 months.

"I got out to my family because my community helped," said Chowdhury, who is from Bangladesh.

Chowdhury now has a permit to work in the U.S. and he hopes to get a green card in the future. His son, Maheen, 14, said he was 11 when immigration authorities showed up to arrest his father at 5 a.m. According to Maheen, the separation put the entire family in a tailsip.

"Everything was a mess," said Maheen Chowdhury, who was

born in the U.S. "We had trouble getting food. My mom just cried all the time. We had to sell our car for money."

The Chowdhurys said they don't want others to suffer the same pain and that there should be a way for immigrants without criminal records to stay in the country.

In Hartford, Conn., dozens of immigrants gathered in front of a federal building after coming from 11 cities across the state. Many said they were angered into action by the refusal of Republicans in Congress to work on immigration reforms. Protesters included Jasmine Mendoza, of Norwalk, Conn., whose husband was deported after a routine traffic stop. Mendoza said she is raising their 8-month-old son alone.



Here is the definitive book on the Boston Marathon bombing and subsequent manhunt for the Tsarnaevs. Read the gripping story of the tragic, surreal, and ultimately inspiring week of April 15, 2013 as it highlights the bravery, resourcefulness, and resiliency of the Boston community.

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WORLD

Germany's language law keeps newlyweds apart

By KIRSTEN GRIESHABER

The Associated Press

BERLIN — Michael Guhle met the love of his life on the beach of a little fishing village in Vietnam. Thi An Nguyen was selling freshly cooked mussels and fruit to the German tourist, and they immediately clicked. Soon, the Berlin nursing home worker was saving up all of his money and vacation days to visit Nguyen.

Marriage was supposed to bring them together. Instead, it was the beginning of a long ordeal apart. Germany blocked Nguyen from entering the country after she flunked the language test that Germany requires aspiring immigrants to pass — even those married to Germans.

"I thought marrying the person you love and living together was a hard right," Guhle said in his modest two-room apartment in Berlin. "Apparently this is not the case in Germany."

Germany adopted German language regulations for prospective immigrants in 2007. Most EU countries do not require foreign spouses to pass mandatory language tests before they join their partners in Europe. Austria, Britain and the Netherlands are among countries that require language tests before foreign spouses can enter the country, but experts say Germany's test is the toughest.

The European Commission has criticized the law in Germany, saying it may violate European treaties. A legal challenge to the European Court of Justice is expected to be heard this month.

Germany defends the law as a way to prevent forced marriages and to help immigrants integrate more easily. Critics maintain the law discriminates against the uneducated and poor. Most agree immigrants should learn German, but opponents of the law say that could be done more quickly, cheaply and easily in Germany.

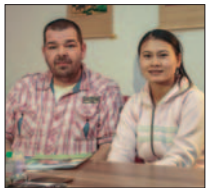
"We only wanted to live together," said Guhle, 43. "How are you supposed to learn German if you are poor and uneducated and live in a remote Vietnamese fishing village?"

The government defends the measure, saying it requires only basic language knowledge.

It is not clear how many couples have been separated by the law. According to the latest official statistics, some 40,000 people took the test at Germany's partially state-funded Goethe Institute language schools around the world in 2012. Of those, around 14,000 failed and would not have been able to obtain a visa.

When Guhle first went to Berlin's city hall in the fall of 2006 and said he would like to marry his girlfriend from Vietnam in Germany, an official told him — without explanation — that it wasn't possible.

The couple then decided to have a traditional wedding with 300



Michael Guhle and his wife, Thi An Nguyen, sit in their apartment in Berlin on Feb. 11. Germany delayed her entering the country after she flunked a language test.

guests in Nguyen's fishing village Doc Let. They got married in Vietnam in the summer of 2007 and planned to move to Germany straight away — not knowing that Germany had just enacted the language law.

Their relationship soon became a story of long stretches of loneli-

ness — and thousands of euros in expenses.

Guhle, a low-paid nurse's assistant, took on a second job cleaning streets at night so he could finance his wife's German classes in Nha Trang, the nearest city where they could find a private German school.

He paid for her hotel for nine months while she studied and also financed the trip to Ho Chi Minh City where she would take the language test.

Nguyen failed the test and did not get her visa. She kept trying to learn German, but it was never enough. German authorities even refused to issue a tourist visa to let Nguyen visit her husband in Berlin.

The couple took their case to a German court. After proving that Nguyen had repeatedly tried to learn German for over a year, she was finally allowed to immigrate.

She arrived in Berlin last September.

"One is married in good times as in bad," Guhle said. "I guess we started with the bad."

As searchers race against time, hopes hinge on sound

The Associated Press

PERTH, Australia — Searchers hunting for the missing Malaysia Airlines jet were racing to a patch of the southern Indian Ocean on Sunday to determine whether a few brief sounds picked up by underwater equipment came from the plane's black boxes, whose battery-operated beacons are on the verge of dying out.

Ships scouring a remote stretch of water for the plane that vanished nearly a month ago detected three separate sounds over the course of three days. A Chinese ship picked up an electronic pulsing signal on Friday and again on Saturday in a small part of the search zone, and an Australian ship carrying sophisticated deep-sea sound equipment picked up a signal in a different area on Sunday, the head of the multinational search said.

But there were questions about whether any of the sounds were the breakthrough searchers are desperately seeking or just another dead end in a hunt seemingly full of them, with experts expressing doubt that the equipment aboard the Chinese ship was capable of picking up signals from the black boxes.

"This is an important and encouraging lead, but one which I

urge you to treat carefully," retired Australian Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston, who is coordinating the search, told reporters in Perth.

Houston stressed that the signals had not been verified as being linked to Flight 370, which was traveling from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing when it disappeared March 8 with 239 people on board. Experts expressed doubt that the equipment aboard the Chinese ship was capable of picking up signals from the black boxes.

"We have an acoustic event," Houston said. "The job now is to determine the significance of that event. It does not confirm or deny the presence of the aircraft locator on the bottom of the ocean."

"We are dealing with very deep water. We are dealing with an environment where sometimes you can get false indications," he said. "There are lots of noises in the ocean, and sometimes the acoustic equipment can rebound, echo if you like."

China's official Xinhua News Agency reported Saturday that the patrol vessel Haixun 01 detected a "pulse signal" Friday in the southern Indian Ocean at 37.5 kilohertz — the same frequency emitted by the flight data recorders aboard the missing plane.

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Smoker discounts deemed unhealthy

Military discounts on cigarettes sold at base exchanges narrowed by half during the past two years but remain "substantial" and contradictory of health policies of the Department of Defense, according to a new analysis of cigarette pricing on base in this month's American Journal of Public Health.

The survey results add momentum to a plan being urged by Navy Secretary Ray Mabus to pull tobacco products from all Navy and Marine Corps exchanges and commissaries as well as ship stores by fall of this year.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel gave that idea a kind of gentle endorsement last week when he said servicemembers' health has to be viewed as a higher priority than any hit to troop morale caused by the potential loss of easy access to discounted tobacco.

"I think you start with [a] look at the health of your force," Hagel said. "I don't know if there's anybody in America who still thinks

MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

that tobacco's good for you. ... The surgeon general 50 years ago made that statement pretty clear. We don't allow smoking in any of our government buildings, restaurants. States and municipalities have pretty clear regulations on this."

Hagel's remarks capture the theme of a March 14 memorandum to the services from Dr. Jonathan Woodson, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, who recounted the ways tobacco use "undercuts military readiness and harms individual performance."

Yet the "prominence of tobacco products in [military] retail outlets, and permission for smoking

breaks while on duty, sustain the perception that we are not serious about reducing the use of tobacco."

"Our goal is to dramatically reduce the use of all tobacco by 2020," Woodson said. "Individual military communities are taking action to curtail tobacco use, but we must develop more aggressive, organizationwide reforms. Structural reforms in how and where we allow tobacco purchases to be made, as well as the need to consider tobacco-free installations, are all matters that require our near-term attention."

The new survey on base tobacco prices by the Institute for

Biobehavioral Health Research, of Leawood, Kansas, compares what exchanges charged in 2013 for a pack of Marlboro Red, by far the most popular brand of cigarette, with prices at nearby Wal-Mart stores. Price data gathered in 2013 then were compared with data collected in 2011.

Results show discounts on cigarettes had narrowed from average savings of 24.5 percent at exchanges in 2011 to 12.5 percent last year.

Much of that occurred, however, because Wal-Mart dropped prices significantly. Exchanges raised prices only modestly and some just ignored or found ways to get around Defense Department policy language that tobacco discounts are not to be "lower than 5 percent below the most competitive price in the local community."

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA, or email militaryupdate@aol.com or twitter: Tom Philpott @Military_Update.

EXCHANGE RATES

| Military rates | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Euro costs (April 7) | \$1.4049 |
| Dollar buys (April 7) | €0.7118 |
| British pound (April 7) | £1.70 |
| Japanese yen (April 7) | ¥101.00 |
| South Korean won (April 7) | ₩1,030.00 |

| Commercial rates | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Bahrain (Dinar) | 0.3771 |
| British pound | \$1.6579/0.6032 |
| Canada (dollar) | 1.0984 |
| China (Yuan) | 6.2102 |
| Denmark (Krone) | 5.4483 |
| Egypt (Pound) | 6.9747 |
| Euro | \$1.3702/0.7298 |
| Hong Kong (Dollar) | 1.7565 |
| Hungary (Forint) | 232.14 |
| Israel (Shekel) | 3.4801 |
| Japan (Yen) | 103.25 |
| Kuwait (Dinar) | 0.2828 |
| Norway (Krone) | 6.0020 |
| Philippines (Peso) | 44.98 |
| Poland (Zloty) | 3.304 |
| Saudi Arabia (Riyal) | 3.7505 |
| Singapore (Dollar) | 1.2586 |
| South Korea (Won) | 1,052.43 |
| Switzerland (Franc) | 0.8919 |
| Taiwan (Dollar) | 32.48 |
| Turkey (New Lira) | 2.1138 |

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., for the United States), the exchange rate with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to the U.S. dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

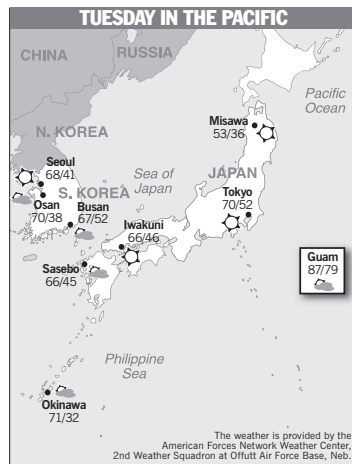
INTEREST RATES

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Prime rate | 3.25 |
| Discount rate | 2.75 |
| Federal funds market rate | 0.08 |
| 3-month bill | 0.05 |
| 30-year bond | 3.58 |

Note to readers

After this column, look for Tom Philpott's Military Update on Fridays in Stars and Stripes.

WEATHER OUTLOOK



Monday's US temperatures

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|-------|--------------------|----|----|-------|--------------------|----|----|-------|-----------------|----|----|-------|
| City | Hi | Lo | Wthr | City | Hi | Lo | Wthr | City | Hi | Lo | Wthr | City | Hi | Lo | Wthr |
| Able, Tex | 70 | 46 | Cldy | Chatanooga | 69 | 51 | Rain | Fort Wayne | 45 | 38 | Rain | Louisville | 62 | 51 | Rain |
| Akron, Ohio | 53 | 37 | Cldy | Cheyenne | 49 | 29 | Cldy | Fresno | 87 | 53 | Cldy | Lubbock | 64 | 42 | Cldy |
| Albany, N.Y. | 57 | 30 | Rain | Chicago | 48 | 38 | Rain | Goodland | 54 | 37 | Cldy | Macomb | 73 | 58 | Rain |
| Albuquerque | 65 | 38 | PCldy | Cincinnati | 53 | 46 | Rain | Grand Junction | 61 | 32 | PCldy | Madison | 56 | 39 | Cldy |
| Allentown, Pa. | 53 | 32 | Cldy | Cleveland | 49 | 38 | Rain | Great Falls | 48 | 34 | Rain | Medford | 79 | 45 | PCldy |
| Anchorage | 40 | 32 | Snow | Colorado Springs | 51 | 28 | Cldy | Greensboro, N.C. | 62 | 44 | Cldy | Memphis | 62 | 54 | Cldy |
| Asheville | 54 | 44 | Rain | Columbia, S.C. | 70 | 53 | Rain | Green Bay | 54 | 38 | Cldy | Midland-Odesa | 71 | 42 | Cldy |
| Atlanta | 67 | 55 | Rain | Columbus, Ga. | 72 | 58 | Rain | Hartford | 56 | 34 | Rain | Milwaukee | 48 | 38 | Cldy |
| Atlantic City | 54 | 35 | Rain | Columbus, Ohio | 64 | 45 | Rain | Harrisburg | 56 | 31 | Cldy | Mpls-St Paul | 54 | 36 | Cldy |
| Austin | 72 | 38 | Rain | Concord, N.H. | 56 | 25 | PCldy | Helenia | 63 | 35 | Cldy | Missoula | 61 | 32 | PCldy |
| Baltimore | 51 | 38 | Rain | Corpus Christi | 85 | 57 | Cldy | Honolulu | 80 | 70 | Rain | Mobile | 80 | 70 | Rain |
| Baton Rouge | 76 | 66 | Cldy | Dallas-Ft Worth | 65 | 47 | Cldy | Houston | 72 | 54 | Rain | Montgomery | 74 | 63 | Rain |
| Bilings | 68 | 35 | Cldy | Dayton | 58 | 42 | Rain | Huntsville | 65 | 57 | Rain | Nashville | 66 | 56 | Rain |
| Birmingham | 70 | 61 | Rain | Denver | 53 | 30 | Cldy | Indianapolis | 50 | 44 | Rain | New Orleans | 78 | 67 | Rain |
| Bismarck | 53 | 31 | Cldy | Des Moines | 59 | 42 | Cldy | Jackson, Miss. | 71 | 61 | Cldy | New York City | 57 | 41 | Rain |
| Boise | 67 | 38 | Cldy | Detroit | 43 | 36 | Rain | Jacksonville, Fla. | 81 | 64 | Rain | Newark | 58 | 40 | Rain |
| Boston | 55 | 38 | PCldy | Duluth | 47 | 30 | Cldy | Juneau | 45 | 39 | Rain | Norfolk, Va. | 65 | 46 | Rain |
| Bridgeton | 58 | 35 | Rain | El Paso | 75 | 49 | Cldy | Kansas City | 58 | 42 | Cldy | North Platte | 55 | 36 | Cldy |
| Brownsville | 87 | 66 | Cldy | Elkins | 59 | 38 | Rain | Key West | 68 | 47 | Cldy | Oakland, Calif. | 68 | 47 | Cldy |
| Buffalo | 67 | 34 | Rain | Eric | 47 | 34 | Rain | Lincoln | 56 | 51 | Rain | Omaha | 60 | 42 | Rain |
| Burlington, Vt. | 55 | 35 | PCldy | Evansville | 57 | 47 | Rain | Lafayette, La. | 62 | 35 | Rain | Orlando, Fla. | 68 | 50 | Rain |
| Cambridge, Maine | 48 | 25 | Cldy | Fairbanks | 37 | 17 | Snow | Las Vegas | 82 | 57 | Cldy | Pendleton | 69 | 39 | Cldy |
| Casper | 55 | 30 | Cldy | Flagstaff | 60 | 32 | Cldy | Little Rock | 63 | 49 | Rain | Phoenix | 88 | 59 | Rain |
| Charleston, S.C. | 75 | 56 | Rain | Flint | 50 | 32 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain |
| Charleston, W.Va. | 68 | 48 | Rain | Ft. Smith | 60 | 32 | Cldy | Little Rock | 63 | 49 | Rain | Phoenix | 88 | 59 | Rain |
| Chattanooga | 69 | 51 | Rain | Grand Rapids | 61 | 32 | PCldy | Madison | 56 | 39 | Cldy | Providence | 56 | 39 | Cldy |
| Chicago | 48 | 38 | Rain | Green Bay | 54 | 38 | Cldy | Midland-Odesa | 71 | 42 | Cldy | Reno | 62 | 54 | Cldy |
| Cincinnati | 53 | 46 | Rain | Harrisburg | 56 | 31 | Cldy | Missoula | 61 | 32 | PCldy | Rochester | 48 | 38 | Cldy |
| Cleveland | 49 | 38 | Rain | Honolulu | 80 | 70 | Rain | Mobile | 80 | 70 | Rain | San Antonio | 76 | 50 | Rain |
| Colorado Springs | 51 | 28 | Cldy | Houston | 72 | 54 | Rain | Montgomery | 74 | 63 | Rain | Sacramento | 82 | 51 | Cldy |
| Columbia, S.C. | 70 | 53 | Rain | Huntsville | 65 | 57 | Rain | Nashville | 66 | 56 | Rain | St Louis | 66 | 57 | Rain |
| Columbus, Ga. | 72 | 58 | Rain | Indianapolis | 50 | 44 | Rain | New Orleans | 78 | 67 | Rain | St Petersburg | 83 | 71 | Cldy |
| Columbus, Ohio | 64 | 45 | Rain | Jackson, Miss. | 71 | 61 | Cldy | New York City | 57 | 41 | Rain | St Thomas | 85 | 70 | Cldy |
| Concord, N.H. | 56 | 25 | PCldy | Jacksonville, Fla. | 81 | 64 | Rain | Newark | 58 | 40 | Rain | Tampa | 68 | 47 | Cldy |
| Corpus Christi | 85 | 57 | Cldy | Juneau | 45 | 39 | Rain | Norfolk, Va. | 65 | 46 | Rain | Tucson | 63 | 46 | Cldy |
| Dallas-Ft Worth | 65 | 47 | Cldy | Kansas City | 58 | 42 | Cldy | North Platte | 55 | 36 | Cldy | Wichita | 61 | 43 | Cldy |
| Dayton | 58 | 42 | Rain | Key West | 68 | 47 | Cldy | Oakland, Calif. | 68 | 47 | Cldy | W. Palm Beach | 86 | 72 | Cldy |
| Denver | 53 | 30 | Cldy | Lincoln | 56 | 51 | Rain | Omaha | 60 | 42 | Rain | Wichita Falls | 65 | 42 | Cldy |
| Des Moines | 59 | 42 | Cldy | Lafayette, La. | 62 | 35 | Rain | Orlando, Fla. | 68 | 50 | Rain | Wikes-Barre | 56 | 33 | Rain |
| Detroit | 43 | 36 | Rain | Las Vegas | 82 | 57 | Cldy | Pendleton | 69 | 39 | Cldy | Yakima | 70 | 37 | Cldy |
| Duluth | 47 | 30 | Cldy | Little Rock | 63 | 49 | Rain | Phoenix | 88 | 59 | Rain | Youngstown | 50 | 30 | Cldy |
| El Paso | 75 | 49 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Elkins | 59 | 38 | Rain | Little Rock | 63 | 49 | Rain | Phoenix | 88 | 59 | Rain | | | | |
| Eric | 47 | 34 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Evansville | 57 | 47 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Fairbanks | 37 | 17 | Snow | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Flagstaff | 60 | 32 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Flint | 50 | 32 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Ft. Smith | 60 | 32 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Grand Rapids | 61 | 32 | PCldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Green Bay | 54 | 38 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Harrisburg | 56 | 31 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Honolulu | 80 | 70 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Houston | 72 | 54 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Huntsville | 65 | 57 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Indianapolis | 50 | 44 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Jackson, Miss. | 71 | 61 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Jacksonville, Fla. | 81 | 64 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Juneau | 45 | 39 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Kansas City | 58 | 42 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Key West | 68 | 47 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 56 | 51 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lafayette, La. | 62 | 35 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Las Vegas | 82 | 57 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Little Rock | 63 | 49 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Little Rock | 63 | 49 | Rain | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
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| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
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| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
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| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Philadelphia | 57 | 39 | Rain | | | | |
| Lincoln | 59 | 40 | Cldy | Lincoln | | | | | | | | | | | |

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 24 Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

National temperature extremes
Hi: Sat., 87, West Kendall, Fla.
Lo: Sat., -7, Wakefield, Mich.

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OPINION

Marine silent no more on gay marriage

ROGER DEAN HUFFSTETLER

I slept with a gay man for six months in Afghanistan.

No one asked. He did not tell.

In 2005, I and 200 Marines in my squadron deployed to Afghanistan to support the global war on terrorism. We were stationed at Bagram Airfield, a deep bowl surrounded by snowcapped mountains, where it rained and snowed while the sun beamed, prompting one Marine to remark, "Welcome to Afghanistan, the only place on Earth where you get all four seasons and a rocket in the same day."

We lived in "B-huts," wooden houses with no internal structure, subdivided into "rooms" by flimsy plywood boards. Every moment was spent in close quarters: working in small offices, eating meals in the mess hall, sleeping in bunks, exercising. We saw each other at our best and our worst, shared secrets and fears, lost patience with and supported one another through the duration of deployment.

Sgt. Santiago and I spoke often, if casually. He routinely had one of the highest physical fitness test scores in our unit and never missed a chance to go skate dancing stateside with fellow Marines, including our senior enlisted Marine and his wife, whom he persuaded to join a few times. He also proudly displayed his Puerto Rican flag in his barracks. Nevertheless, he was a reserved man, quiet, private. I assumed these were inherent personality traits. I didn't realize that he was hiding something.

I believed I knew the men in my B-hut better than I knew most of my friends at home, yet the man sleeping next door had a secret he dared not reveal for fear of being removed from active duty. He never crossed

my mind that he was gay — or that I could have done so much more to be his friend.

Even as a kid, Andy was exceptionally affable, the kind of person who could talk to a trash can. He never met a stranger, and he unfailingly seemed to know where he was going. Andy was surrounded by a close group of friends, always together, always laughing. It felt fair to say everyone enjoyed being around him.

In our teens, Andy and I would go on mission trips around the country, helping to clean or build homes, with a little vacation Bible school on the side. Perhaps Andy knew then that he was gay — it seems likely — but he flirted with girls, same as the rest of us. If he did know, he kept it to himself, and I lived in ignorance about it.

It would be 20 years before Facebook told me what I didn't know about my childhood friend. About the same time, Sgt. Santiago's news broke through the same social network: Both men were engaged to be married. To men.

There was suddenly nothing I wanted more than to make amends.

No, I never gay-bashed. I didn't bully, I didn't hate, I didn't torment.

But I did say "fag" to a fellow Marine in front of Sgt. Santiago. I did stay seated in the pew when my minister challenged, "Don't let anyone tell you that this church is soft on homosexuality." Silence is a most powerful consent.

I would think, 'Civil unions, what's wrong with that?' I considered myself "accepting" and "tolerant," excusing the soft discrimination that's easy to shrug off, the implicit inequality of separate but equal.

The irony was that I had always imagined that if I'd lived in the time of segregation and the civil rights movement, I would

be the white Southerner who was proud to march with the NAACP — that I would tear down bigoted beliefs and demand equality for all, even putting myself at risk if need be. But I didn't do those things. I watched the fight right in front of me without question, inactive and accepting — just like the generations before me.

Well, no longer.

Andy and Sgt. Santiago both happen to live in New York now, and in a single visit I managed to apologize to and feel the weight of my embarrassment before each of them.

I blinched back tears as I spoke to Sgt. Santiago, who slept next door in Afghanistan, watching for my life as I watched for his: "I'm sorry I let you down."

To Andy, my childhood friend who still worships the same God as I do: "Finding out you are gay has been instrumental in my supporting gay marriage. I'm sorry it took this long."

And to both of them: "I aim to do everything I can to make up for being late to the party."

We don't need to look backward for a chance to stand up for principles. Life isn't about always being right — I was wrong for a long time — but about learning from mistakes and making amends. And you go to church every Sunday but you know that discrimination is wrong, or you're serving overseas and worried that you or others in your squadron can't be themselves, there is something you can do. Write. Speak out. Find the Andys and Sgts. Santiago in your life and make amends. There is still time to be on the right side of history.

Roger Dean Huffstetler is a former Marine Corps sergeant. This commentary first appeared in the Washington Post.

Name-calling lawmaker should apologize

By KATHLEEN PARKER

The Washington Post

Rush Limbaugh can relax. The popular "demon of the right" has been replaced at least through the midterms by the Koch brothers, Charles and David.

Who? Exactly. Though cable and online news junkies know the names, the vast majority of Americans probably have no idea who the Kochs are.

For the uninitiated, the brothers are libertarian billionaires whose vast industries in petroleum, asphalt, natural gas liquids, coal and ethanol employ 60,000 people. More to the point, they are spending gobs of their own money to sway politics toward free-market principles and away from current government expansionist trends.

For this, they have been targeted by Democrats, who are not exactly penniless when it comes to advancing their own political policies and policies. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., broke down all barriers to protocol recently when he called the Kochs "un-American."

Democrats are trying to make the billionaire Koch brothers the new face of the Republican Party. Conveniently, the name Koch is pronounced the same as that other capitalist goliath, Coke.

The doubling down on the Kochs has been in play for some months, advanced by frequent mentions among liberal commu-



CURR OWEN/AP

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., speaks with reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington on Tuesday following a Senate Policy Luncheon.

tators who, though perhaps not as influential as Limbaugh, have large followings. But Reid's McCarthy-esque name-calling took hell to the devil. It was not only cringe-inducing but also profoundly sad. One would hope the leader of the Senate Democrats might have better rhetorical devices at his intellectual disposal.

Reid suffers no remorse and fired back that he was delighted if people now knew who those un-Americans are. The more who despise the Kochs, the better. The Kochs aren't just leaders of the Republican Party,

as Democrats are proposing, they are the face of the Haves. To dislike the Kochs is to dislike the wealthy in general.

This is really the heart of the Democratic proposition. As the midterm elections take shape around the debate about income inequality, the Kochs personify the uncaring elite of the 1 percenters. Before November comes and goes, the Kochs may as well have been tarred and feathered and made to ride backward on a mule down Pennsylvania Avenue.

Allowing the superwealthy to disproportionately influence political outcomes may indeed be bad for the democratic process — and that's of legitimate concern to all. But one's eyes should be wide open when people are singled out as un-American. What's next? A Senate committee investigating such un-American activities as violating free-market principles or pursuing capitalist endeavors?

Of course. I'm kidding. That could never happen here, except it sort of already has. When Reid called the Kochs un-American, a powerful government official fired a shot across the bow of two private citizens who have acted within the law while contributing wealth to the economy through employment.

Reid owes the Kochs — and the American people — an apology.

Kathleen Parker is a member of the Washington Post Writers Group. Her email address is kathleenparker@washpost.com.

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Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons

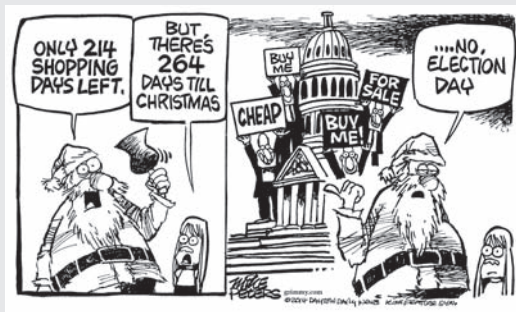
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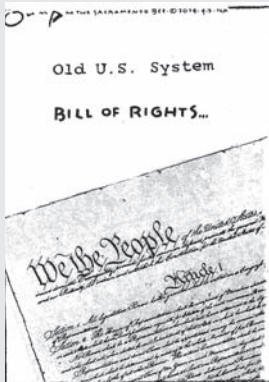
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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Undertaker talks about death in jokes, tweets

PA PARKESBURG — A sixth-generation Pennsylvania undertaker is using humor and social media to talk about death and how precious life is.

Caleb Wilde has sent tweets suggesting that he ties the shoelaces of the dead together because it would be "hilarious" if there's ever a zombie apocalypse. Wilde said he doesn't actually do that.

The paper reports that Wilde's "Confessions of a Funeral Director" blog on Facebook get between 600,000 and 1 million hits per week, and he has more than 17,000 Twitter followers.

Wilde said he doesn't accept advertising for his social media. He takes antidepressants and is open about the depression he suspects many others in the business struggle with. He said writing a blog is his therapy.

Hatteras Lighthouse stones to be moved

NC BUXTON — The former foundation stones of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse now threatened by erosion are expected to have a new home near the beacon by Memorial Day.

National Park Service spokeswoman Cyndy Holda said Thursday that staff will put material between the stones that will keep grass from growing but that's also soft enough for people to walk on.

The approximately 30 stones were left behind when the lighthouse was moved inland 15 years ago to protect it from erosion. A nonprofit group paid to have the stones engraved with the names of the 83 light keepers.

Dawn Taylor, of the Hatteras Island Genealogical and Preservation Society, said the stones will be placed in a semicircle and that they'll be named the Keepers of the Light Amphitheater.

NYC's Tavern on the Green reopening

NY NEW YORK — The landmark Tavern on the Green in New York City's Central Park, shuttered since 2010, is reopening later this month.

The glitzy restaurant has undergone a major rehabilitation and will reopen April 24 for dinner. Lunch and brunch menus will be launched in May for the Mother's Day weekend.

New owners Philadelphia restaurateurs Jim Caiola and David Salama had planned to open last November. Construction and other problems delayed the opening.

Reservations can be made on OpenTable or by telephone.

Killer Jeffrey Dahmer's childhood home for sale

OH BATH — The house where serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer grew up and committed his first murder is for sale again in northern Ohio.

Situated on a private, wooded lot in a wealthy neighborhood near Akron, the three-bedroom home is priced at \$295,000.

THE CENSUS

34.3

The duration (in hours) of a drone's flight by an all-female crew. Officials at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., said the flight of the Global Hawk in late March was the longest without in-air refueling for a military aircraft. It broke the record by a little more than an hour. The effort, dubbed, "Flight of the Lady Hawk," also broke the female flight crew endurance record, which had stood at 18 hours.



GORDON KING, YAKIMA (WASH.) HERALD-REPUBLIC/AP

Heavy lift

A tank captured during the Iraq War by Bravo Company of the 4th Tank Battalion of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves is moved from the Marines' training center Thursday in Yakima, Wash. The tank, along with a late '60s-era tank also on display at the center, was moved to the Marines' new Yakima Training Center in Selah, Wash. The tanks were placed on trailers and trucked to their new home at the YTC.

The home was first listed two years ago before being pulled off the market. Realtor Rich Lubinski said it failed to sell then because of the depressed housing market and its notorious past.

"If you can get past that little problem, you'll have a wonderful place to live," said Chris Butler, the home's current owner.

He bought the house in 2005, well aware of its history. He said he was drawn to the house by its 1950s style and wooded lot.

Dahmer and his parents moved into the house in 1968 when he was 8. Ten years later, he committed his first murder there, killing a hitchhiker he had brought home and then burying the remains in the woods.

Dahmer moved to Wisconsin in 1982 and went on to kill 16 more people before his crimes were discovered in 1991. He was killed in prison in 1994 by a fellow inmate.

Fraternity suspended over 'rapebait' email

GA ATLANTA — Georgia Tech is suspending a fraternity for three years after an investigation into a member send-

ing an email with instructions for "luring rapebait" at parties fueled with alcohol.

A statement from the Atlanta school says Phi Kappa Tau violated student conduct rules and didn't comply with sanctions imposed last fall.

The suspension was first reported by Georgia Tech's student newspaper, The Technique.

The fraternity came under scrutiny following reports about the email.

The student newspaper also published what it says are internal fraternity messages that include obscenity and describe sexual violence against women. The group's disciplinary suspension ends in 2017.

Police: Woman had vodka in baby's stroller

NJ NEW MILFORD — A northern New Jersey woman is facing criminal charges after she was found intoxicated and carrying liquor and beer in her baby's stroller.

Police said they responded to a report of an unattended stroller outside the Golden China restaurant in New Milford on Wednes-

day night. They said they found Ashley Scola, 26, of Hawthorne, preparing to leave the restaurant. Police said Scola's speech appeared slurred and there was an odor of alcohol on her breath.

Officers said they found a sealed bottle of vodka in her purse in the baby's stroller and empty beer cans in a bag underneath.

Scola was charged with child endangerment and was being held Friday in lieu of \$50,000 bail.

Panel rejects design for Eisenhower Memorial

DC WASHINGTON — A U.S. commission that oversees plans for monuments in America's capital voted Thursday to reject the current design for a memorial honoring President Dwight D. Eisenhower, sending the concept back to its architects for revisions.

The National Capital Planning Commission voted 7-3 against the design. The objections focus primarily on the scale and placement of columns that would hold large, stainless steel tapestries framing a memorial park honoring Eisenhower.

One concern is preserving

views of the nearby U.S. Capitol between the massive columns.

L. Preston Bryant Jr., the planning commission's chairman, voted to oppose the current design but also voted to bring the project back every two months with updates on its progress.

State funds police training on mentally ill

NY ALBANY — New York's new budget allocates \$400,000 for a pilot program to train police officers in dealing with the mentally ill.

Mental health advocates proposed the training to help officers assess and de-escalate confrontations when called to incidents involving psychologically troubled people.

The so-called Crisis Intervention Team model is already used in some form by 2,700 jurisdictions nationwide.

It teams police officers with mental health professionals. The program includes guidance for 911 dispatchers on gathering information on mental health and addiction issues.

From wire reports

FACES

COMMENTARY

By ANDY FIXMER

Bloomberg News

David Letterman's retirement from CBS next year may open the door for a woman to take over one of TV's iconic late-night talk shows for the first time.

Ellen DeGeneres would be an ideal choice, according to Mary Murphy, a senior lecturer at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. Tina Fey and Amy Poehler would be good candidates, too, former NBC chief Bob Wright said Thursday on Bloomberg TV.

Letterman's exit and the naming of a successor will complete a generational shift in late-night TV and give CBS the opportunity to make even bigger changes if the network is willing to gamble. It's been more than 30 years since Joan Rivers became Johnny Carson's regular guest host. Her efforts to start a competing show on Fox in the late 1980s faltered.

"The bold move is choosing a woman," said Murphy, a former news producer on "Entertainment Tonight," a syndicated show. "You put Tina, Amy, or Ellen in that position and it would be extraordinary. It's an era where people are saying, 'Not just one more guy sitting behind a desk.'"

With CBS' entertainment division led by a woman, Nina Tassler, there's a greater likelihood the network will consider a female comedian, Murphy said.

"They are going to have to think very, very carefully," Murphy said. "It would have to be a woman who could be risky but not cross the line for a mass audience."

Letterman, 66, announced his retirement at the taping of his show April 3 in New York, according to a statement from his company, Worldwide Pants. He has been host of "The Late Show With David Letterman" on New York-based CBS since 1993. "Late

Will a woman take over for Letterman?



Tina Fey

Amy Poehler



Ellen DeGeneres

"The bold move is choosing a woman. You put Tina, Amy or Ellen in that position and it would be extraordinary. It's an era where people are saying, 'Not just one more guy sitting behind a desk.'"

Mary Murphy

a former news producer on "Entertainment Tonight"

Night With David Letterman" ran on NBC starting in 1982.

Together, the two series will add up to 33 years and make Letterman the longest-serving

host in late-night TV, exceeding Johnny Carson's 30 years at "The Tonight Show" on NBC.

"He is such a figure in the industry," said Wright, who ran NBC

for 20 years. "It is not going to be simple to pick a replacement."

DeGeneres, 56, a two-time Oscars host, is a popular syndicated daytime talk-show personal-

ity. "Ellen" drew 3.6 million viewers a day in the week ended March 16, according to Nielsen. She helped attract 43 million viewers to the Academy Awards telecast last month.

Poehler, 42, and Fey, 43, are successful graduates of "Saturday Night Live." They have also co-hosted the annual Golden Globe Awards twice.

"Tina is an extremely big-time media person, writer, producer, performer," said Wright. "I don't know that she would want that grind."

Cara Tripicchio, a publicist for Fey, didn't return messages seeking comment. Neither did Lewis Kay, a spokesman for Poehler, nor ICM Partners, which represents DeGeneres. Chris Ender, a spokesman for CBS, declined to comment on succession plans.

For a candidate to be successful in late night, talent and work ethic will be more important than gender, said Rick Ludwin, former head of NBC's cited night programming, who cited Chelsea Handler, host of a show on the E! Network, as someone who's been successful in that line of work.

"When you promise the audience that comedy is a big part of the equation and that you will deliver that five nights a week, even the most experienced, talented people don't realize how much work that is," Ludwin said in a telephone interview. "Johnny and Dave and Jay made it look easy. It's very difficult and it's relentless."

Letterman informed CBS Chief Executive Officer Leslie Moonves of his decision on April 3.

Moonves had said previously his late-night host could stay as long as he wanted.

"I said 'Leslie, it's been great, you've been great, and the network has been great, but I'm retiring,'" said Letterman, adding "we don't have a timetable for this precisely."

In more than 6,000 episodes, Letterman became known for offbeat comedy such as his Top Ten lists and stupid pet tricks.

M.I.A., Janelle Monae perform together using holograms

The Associated Press

Singers M.I.A. and Janelle Monae shared the stage during separate concerts on opposite coasts through the magic of holograms.

M.I.A. performed in New York with a 3-D projection of Monae April 3 while Monae sang on the West Coast with M.I.A.'s likeness.

Both artists have ideas for how they might use performance holograms beyond their bi-coastal duet, which was sponsored by Audi to launch its A3 model.

The high-tech duet required more advanced 3-D projection and video mapping technology than Tupac Shakur's hologram debut at the annual Coachella music festival in 2012. M.I.A. and Monae performed together in person to help create the holograms, but each saw the results for the first time onstage. "I wish I were in the audience because I'm sure it looked cooler from the audience, but it felt great," Monae said after closing her 40-minute set at Quixote Studios by singing with a hologram. "I felt M.I.A.'s spirit up there."

A life-size hologram of the British rapper joined Monae onstage with an original

addition to her song "Q.U.E.E.N." Wearing a spangled top and pants reminiscent of C-3PO, M.I.A. appeared to dance and sing, her image at times bathed in colored lights. Monae's hologram sang a verse of M.I.A.'s "Bad Girls" with her at New York's SIR Stage 37.

Neither artist got to see what their own hologram looked like ("I'm going to go online and see if I could see it," Monae confessed), but both said they'd try the technology again.

"I think if you can have artists be a hologram and you can access it, and you have them life-size, in your house, it could be kind of cool," M.I.A. said by phone. "It's definitely cool for us and it's cool for me. I could be in 10 places at once."

Actor's memoir due in 2015

Bryan Cranston is going to share some "secrets and lies."

The Emmy-winning actor, known for his role as Walter White in "Breaking Bad," has a deal with Scribner for what is described as a "deeply candid" memoir.

Scribner announced April 3 the book is due out in the fall of 2015. It is currently

untitled. The 58-year-old Cranston said in a statement issued by Scribner that he promises to disclose the "secrets and lies" he endured while starring in "Breaking Bad." He said that from his tortured TV character he learned both "useful" and "dangerous" lessons.

Other news

■ Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi is expecting baby No. 2. The 26-year-old "Jersey Shore" star says in an interview April 4 with Us Weekly: "I'm due in the fall around my wedding time. Busy year!" The pregnancy was confirmed by her publicist.

■ A spokesman for Paula Deen's family has confirmed that a Georgia restaurant at the center of a lawsuit that left her reputation in shambles has closed its doors. Spokesman Jaret Keller says in a statement that Uncle Bubba's Oyster House in Savannah closed April 3.

■ Prosecutors have charged Grammy-nominated rapper 2 Chainz — real name Tauheed Epps — with felony drug possession after his arrest in June of last year at Los Angeles International Airport. The



CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AP

Janelle Monae, left, performs alongside a hologram of M.I.A. during a launch party for the Audi M3 on April 3 in West Hollywood, Calif.

36-year-old entertainer is scheduled to be arraigned April 8.

■ Oscar winner Lupita Nyong'o has been named the new face for Lancôme. The Mexican-born Kenyan will be the first black ambassador for the brand. In a statement April 4, Nyong'o said she was proud to represent Lancôme, adding "beauty should not be dictated, but should instead be an expression of a woman's freedom to be herself."

MILITARY

MILPHOG

MILITARY PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Some tell a story with words, others with pictures. The Year competition for servicemember photographers at Fort Meade, Md. Tech. Sgt. Russ Scalf won second place for Combat Documentation (O) are a few of the top finishers in several categories.

FIRST PLACE, ILLUSTRATIVE



CHRISTOPHER GRIFFIN/U.S. Air Force

A study by Harvard University shows evidence as to why social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter are so popular and highly addictive for many people.

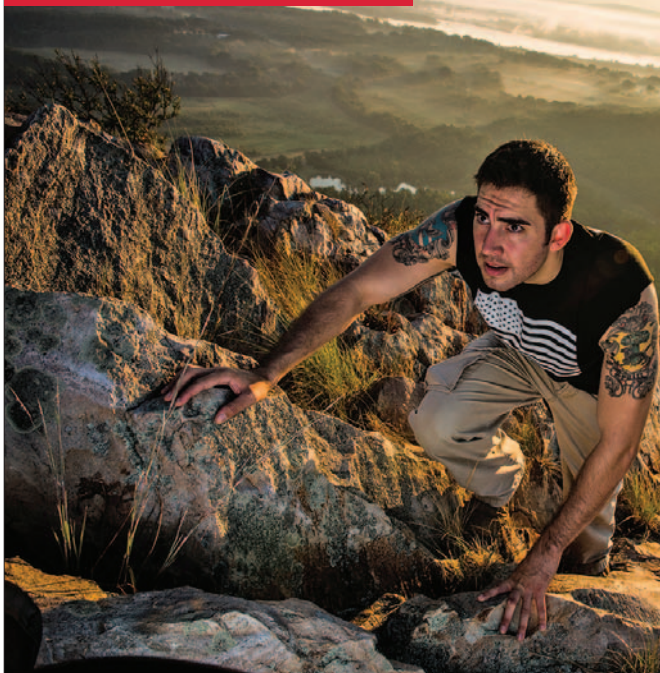
HONORABLE MENTION, PORTRAIT-PERSONALITY

John Muholland joined the Air Force at the cut-off age and now nears 30 years old with less than two years in active-duty military service.

Christopher Griffin
U.S. Air Force



MILITARY PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR



U.S. Army Sgt. Michael Bodiford, a team leader assigned to 39th Infantry Brigade, climbs Pinnacle Mountain several times per week as part of his physical training regimen, designed to prepare him for the Army's Warrior.

THIRD PLACE, FEATURE



JOSHUA L. DeMOTT/Stars and Stripes

Spc. Derek Smith, a gunner with the 2nd Cavalry Regiment, pulls security from the roof of the Panjwai District headquarters in Southern Afghanistan's Kandahar province on Oct. 5, 2013.

FIRST PLACE, PORTRAIT-PERSONALITY



pictures. The annual Military Photographer of
s is judged at the Defense Information School
, of the U.S. Air Force, was named the Military
es photographer Tech. Sgt. Joshua L. DeMotts
(operational) and third place for features. Here
s.



RUSS SCALP/U.S. Air Force

on Sept. 5, 2013, near Little Rock, Ark. Bodiford scales the mountain
nt Officer Candidate School.

SONALITY



A U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon with the 18th Aggressor Squadron flies through bad weather while conducting an air-to-air combat mission in support of Cope North 13 near Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on Feb. 12, 2013. Cope North is an annual air combat tactics, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief exercise designed to increase the readiness and interoperability of the U.S. Air Force, Japan Air Self-Defense Force and Royal Australian Air Force.

Matthew J. Bruch/U.S. Air Force

SECOND PLACE, COMBAT DOCUMENTATION (OPERATIONAL)



JOSHUA L. DeMOTT/Stars and Stripes

An Afghan soldier who'd just lost both legs due to an IED is restrained by Sgt. James Bell, a crew chief, as the patient was very restless during the medevac flight on Oct. 22, 2013.

FIRST PLACE, NEWS



Sgt 1st Class Faamasino Galola, assigned to Joint Special Operations Task Force Philippines, carries a Filipino girl off a MC-130 Combat Talon II from 1st Special Operation Squadron after she was transported from Ormoc to Manila as part of Operation Damayan relief efforts on Nov. 21, 2013.

Daniel Young
U.S. Navy

FIRST PLACE, COMBAT DOCUMENTATION (TRAINING)



SARAH MATTISON/U.S. Army

U.S. Army National Guard 1st Sgt. Kevin Mulcahey and Sgt. Nicholas Tarr, a troop medic, prepare to move during an air assault exercise at Fort Drum, N.Y., on Aug. 13, 2013.

SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

Dance moves that thrill or chill

Biologists figure out which moves catch a woman's eye

BY CHRISTOPHER INGRAHAM
The Washington Post

A group of evolutionary biologists looked at the science of bump and grind, and they say they figured out exactly which dance movements catch a woman's eye.

Researchers at Northumbria University, of the United Kingdom, and the University of Göttingen in Germany wanted to know what women look for in a dance partner, since "dancing ability, particularly that of men, may serve as a signal of mate quality." But isolating specific dance moves is difficult — facial attractiveness, body shape and even perceived socioeconomic status play a role in how people judge the dancing ability of their peers.

So the researchers set up an experiment. They recruited 30 men to dance to a drumbeat for 30 seconds. The men were given no specific instructions on how to dance, and their movements were recorded via a sophisticated motion-capture system.

Each dancer's 30-second routine was then used to animate a "featureless, gender-neutral," computer-generated avatar. Researchers asked 37 women to view each of the dancing avatars and rate their performance on a seven-point scale.

But how to quantify what's going on in each video? The researchers developed a taxonomy of individual dance moves. They isolated three key body regions and the main joints within — the central body, including

the neck and torso; the legs, including the knees, hips and ankles; and the arms, including the shoulders, elbows and wrists. For each dancer, they measured the degree and type of movement at each joint — speed, size and variety of movements like bending, twisting and tilting.

They found that women rated dancers higher when they showed larger and more variable movements of the head, neck and torso.

Speed of leg movements mattered, too, particularly bending and twisting of the right knee. In what might be bad news for the 20 percent of the population who is left-footed, left-knee movement didn't seem to matter.

In fact, certain left-legged movements had a small negative correlation with dancing ability, meaning that dancers who favored left leg motion were rated more poorly. While not statistically significant, the findings suggest that there might be something to that old adage about "two left feet," after all.

One final surprise: Arm movement didn't correlate with perceived dancing ability in any significant way.

Going beyond the dance floor, these findings may demonstrate that men's dance moves could carry "honest signals of traits such as health, fitness, genetic quality and developmental history," although the authors stress that more research is needed to be sure.

It would be particularly instructive to see whether similar findings hold true for men's assessments of women's dancing ability.



RYAN GALLEY, THE KANSAS CITY (MO.) STAR/MCT

For male dancers, hips don't lie, arms don't matter

Researchers have identified types of body movements correlated with a perception of high dancing ability among men.

CENTRAL BODY

Larger and more variable head, neck and torso movement is a key indicator of dancing ability.



LEGS

Speed of leg movements — particularly of the right knee — are strongly associated with dancing ability.



ARMS

Researchers found no relation between arm movement and dancing ability.



Stripes

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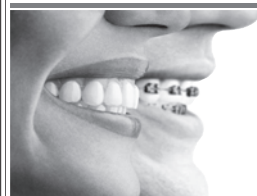
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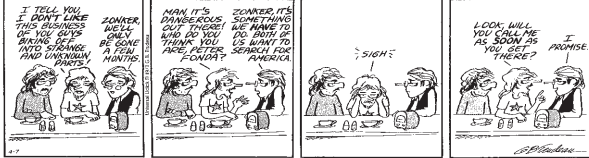
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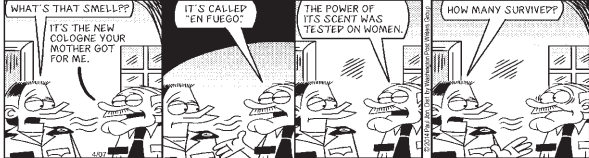
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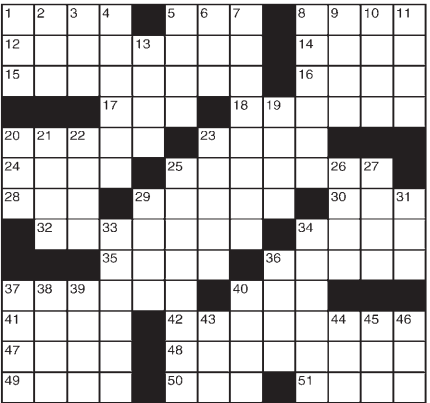
Doonesbury



Fort Knox



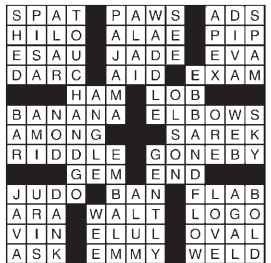
Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Faucet problem
- 5 Healthy
- 8 "Star Wars" knight
- 12 Hun opponent
- 14 Mideastern gulf
- 15 Mad Tea Party guest
- 16 100, in Spain
- 17 Standard
- 18 Charlatans
- 20 Old pen
- 23 Marathon fraction
- 24 A slave to crosswords?
- 25 Role for Judy
- 28 Lair
- 29 Choreographer Bob
- 30 Lummock
- 32 Duality of cartoons
- 34 Showroom sample
- 35 Reed instrument
- 36 Helms or Owens
- 37 Nevertheless
- 40 Intent
- 41 Bob of "This Old House"
- 42 Inactivity
- 43 Satanic
- 48 Locomotive driver
- 49 McNally's partner
- 50 Bygone Oldsmobile
- 51 Ruby and Sandra
- 2 Brazilian city, familiarly
- 3 23-Down's land (Abbr.)
- 4 Zit
- 5 Quartet
- 6 "— my party and ..."
- 7 "— Time Ever I Saw Your Face"
- 8 Coat
- 9 Falco or Adams
- 10 Antelope's playmate
- 11 Hostels
- 13 Hockey score
- 19 Lotion additive
- 20 Proof abbr.
- 21 Secondhand
- 22 — uncertain terms
- 23 General Dayan
- 25 Well-meaning crusader
- 26 Weeding tools
- 27 Thanksgiving veggies
- 29 White lies
- 31 Enemy
- 33 Jimmy's successor
- 34 Insist on
- 36 Guitar legend
- 37 Always
- 38 Paper towel brand
- 39 Tiger's ex, Ms. Nordegren
- 40 Jason's ship
- 43 Inseparable
- 46 Born
- 45 Middling grade
- 46 Century divs.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



DOWN

- 1 Netflix rental

4-7

CRYPTOQUIP

XXKIRR SJIVU TL ECNGFR NQ

QVYIKV QIYHKL TCGHUR

KIXJHUE HU FISHVUXV:

QNCTVICIUXV QNC TVIC IGUSR.

Saturday Cryptoquip: UNITS OF PAIN THAT PEOPLE FEEL AFTER DROPPING COMPUTER PROCESSORS ON THEIR TOES: MEGA-HURTS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals F

SCOREBOARD

Sports
on AFS

Go to the American Forces
Network website for the most up-
to-date TV schedules.
myafn.net

College basketball

CBI tournament

Championship Series

Best-of-3
Siena 61, Fresno State 57
Fresno State 88, Siena 75
Saturday, Siena 51, Fresno State 68.
Siena wins series 2-1.

Women's NCAA tournament

FINAL FOUR
AT Nashville, Tenn.
National Semifinals
Sunday, April 6
Notre Dame (36-0) vs. Maryland (28-6)
UNC (38-0) vs. Stanford (33-3)
National Championship
Tuesday, April 8
Semifinal games

Women's NIT

Semifinals
Wednesday, April 2
UTEP 62, South Florida 52
Rutgers 66, South Dakota State 63
Championship
Thursday, April 5
Rutgers 55, UTEP 59

College baseball

Saturday's games

EAST
CCSU 3-2, Mount St. Mary's 1-5
Castleton 5-5, Maine-Farmington 1-4
Franklin Pierce 4-15, American International 3-8
Clarkson 8-8, Hofstra 3-3
Le Moyne 13-5, Assumption 4-3
Old Westbury 7-6, Mount St. Vincent 0-2
2-5, Connecticut 6-4, St. Anselm 3-3, 2nd game 11 innings
St. Michael's 5-9, New Haven 3-14
Wentworth 10-5, Merrimack 10-9
Stonehill 13-2, Adelphi 1-9
Western New York 1-1, Curry 2-4
Western New England 4-3, Roger Williams 2-4

SOUTH
Anderson 4-8, Leno-Rhyne 3-7
Austin Peay 9-9, Tennessee Tech 6-6
Belhaven 5, Emmanuel 3
Calvin 3-1, UT-Marshall 1-1
Berry 5-3, Hendrix 4-6, 1st game, 11 innings
Boston College 10, North Carolina 9
Brescia 14-3, Berea 7-10
Bridgewater (Va.) 9-9, Hampden-Sydney 6-5, 1st game, 10 innings
2-5, 11 innings
Campbellsville 4, Pikeville 3
Charlotte 4, Evansville 1
Christian Brothers 3-7, Union (Tenn.) 2-2

2-2
Clemson 6, NC State 1
Cumberland (Tenn.) 3-2, Cumberland 3-1
Erskine 7-14, King (Tenn.) 5-6
Florida 11, Kentucky 11-5
Georgetown (Ky.) 7-2, Catherine 3-2
Georgia Southern 10-5, Citadel 1-2
Georgia Tech 5, Duke 1-1
High Point 6-10, Charleston Southern 4-4

Kentucky 3-4, 10, Lane 0-4
Lincoln Memorial 4-6, Coker 5-6
Lipscomb 10-5, ETSU 1-1
Lynchburg (Va.) 9-9, Belmont 1-1
Memphis 3, Louisville 2
Newberry 4-5, Bellarmine 1-1
Mid-Continent 3-6, Park 0-4
Mississippi College 2, Concordia (Tex.) 3-3
Morehead 5-6, E. Kentucky 4
Mount Union 9-22, 10, 11
Murray 5-4, E. Illinois 3, 10 innings
New York 10-5, Ball State 1-1
Newberry 4-1, Carson-Newman 2-2, game 2, 11 innings
Old Dominion 4, Florida International 2-2

Pittsburgh 2, Virginia 1
St. Augustine 0-7, Chowan 7-4
St. George's 2, Centenary 1-1
Shawnee St. 1-2, Lindsey Wilson 0-3
Shenandoah 5, Emory 1-1
West Virginia 1-1, 10, 11
Thomas More 8-3, Grove City 2, 10, 11
Transylvania 12-8, Earham 3-4
Valdosta 13-3, Point Guard 0-4
W. Kentucky 9, Arkansas St. 6
W. Missouri 5, Maryland 2
Winthrop 7, Radford 1-1

MIDWEST
Baker 9, Culver 5-5, 10
Kent St. 11, Ohio 1
Northwestern 11-5, Scholastica 8
New Mexico 8, Jacksonville 5-2
New Mexico High 6-7, Regis 4-6
St. Edwards 4, Fort Smith 0
San Houston 3-2, Oral Roberts 1-1

FAR WEST
Pepperdine 10, St. Mary's, Calif. 4

Pro soccer

MLS

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|-----|----|----|--|--|--|
| | W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA | | | |
| Columbus | 3 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 5 | 4 | | | |
| Toronto FC | 3 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 5 | 4 | | | |
| Portland | 2 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| Philadelphia | 1 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 6 | | | |
| D.C. United | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| New England | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 8 | | | |
| Los Angeles | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 9 | | | |
| New York | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 9 | | | |
| Montreal | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 9 | | | |

| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|-----|----|----|--|--|--|
| | W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA | | | |
| FC Dallas | 2 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 4 | | | |
| Real Salt Lake | 2 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 4 | | | |
| Vancouver | 2 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 4 | | | |
| Colorado | 2 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 5 | | | |
| Seattle | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 5 | | | |
| Chivas USA | 1 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 5 | | | |
| Portland | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 10 | | | |
| San Jose | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | |
| San Jose | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | | | |

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Seattle's games
Portland 4, Seattle FC 2, tie
Montreal 2, Seattle FC 2, tie
Toronto FC 2, Columbus 0
Colorado 2, Vancouver 1
D.C. United 2, New England 0
FC Dallas 4, Houston 1
Sporting Kansas City 0, Real Salt Lake 0, tie

Seattle's games
Los Angeles at Chivas USA
Saturday, April 6
Real Salt Lake at Philadelphia
Colorado at Toronto FC
Chicago at Montreal
Houston at New England
San Jose at D.C. United
Seattle FC at FC Dallas
Portland at Vancouver at Los Angeles
Sunday, April 13
Columbus at San Jose

Toronto FC 2, Crew 0
1-1-2
1-0-0
First half—1, Toronto FC, Bradley 1 (Bloom), 11th minute.
Second half—2, Toronto FC, Nakajima-Farrington 10-55, Sporting Kansas City, 76th; Borchers, Real Salt Lake, 87th; Bieler, Sporting Kansas City, 90th.
Yellow cards—Borchers, 10th; Sporting Kansas City, 34th.
12-045 (22:55)

Real Salt Lake 0, Sporting KC 0
1-0-0
1-0-0
Sporting Kansas City, 0-0
Yellow cards—Real Salt Lake, Jeff Attinella, 39th; Myers, Sporting Kansas City, 76th; Borchers, Real Salt Lake, 87th; Bieler, Sporting Kansas City, 90th.
City, 34th.
12-045 (22:55)

United 2, Revolution 0
1-1-2
1-0-0
First half—1, D.C. United, Goncalves (own goal), 43rd minute.
Second half—2, D.C. United, Roloff 1 (Espindola), 90th.
Goals—New England, Bobby Shuttleworth D.C. United, Andrey Dykstra, 33rd; Clint Hill, D.C. United, 43rd; Dorman, New England, 36th; Davies, New England, 88th; Doyle, D.C. United, 90th+.

Deals

Saturday's transactions

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE
HOUSTON ASTROS — Signed 19 Lance Berkman and RHP Roy Oswalt to one-day contracts and announced their retirement of RHP Jason Castro.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Selected the contract of RHP Aaron Brooks from Omaha (PCL). Signed INF Pedro Ciriaco to a rehab assignment.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Placed 18 Mark Teixeira to a rehab assignment.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Signed RHP Taijuan Walker to a rehab assignment.

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Options INF Vince Velazquez to Durham (IL) Reinstated RHP Rodriguez from the 15-day injured list.

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FC Dallas 4, Dynamo 1

1-3-4
1-0-1
First half—1, FC Dallas, Michel 2 (penalty kick), 31st minute, 2, Houston, Clark 2 (David), 41st.
Second half—3, FC Dallas, Watson 2 (Diaz), 61st, 4, FC Dallas, Barnes (own goal), 86th, 5, FC Dallas, Watson 3 (Diaz), 90th.
Goals—FC Dallas, Chris Seitz: Houston, Tally Hall.
Yellow cards—Taylor, Houston, 22nd; Thomas, FC Dallas, 37th.
Red cards—Hart, Houston, 60th.
A—22,022 (22:00)

Rapids 2, Whitecaps 1
0-2-2
0-1-1
Second half—1, Vancouver, Matticks 1 (Miller), 67th minute, 2, Colorado, Jose Mari 1 (Burch), 79th, 3, Colorado, Jose Mari 2 (Sturges), 82nd.
Goals—Colorado, Clint Irwin; Vancouver, David Ousted.

Yellow cards—Hill, Colorado, 25th; Laba, Vancouver, 54th; Burch, Colorado, 65th; Edin, Colorado, 80th; Irwin, Colorado, 90th+.

Red cards—Laba, Vancouver, 87th; A—21,000.

Union 2, Fire 2
0-2-2
0-2-2
First half—1, Chicago, Magee 1 (Amara), 16th minute, 2, Philadelphia, Edu 1 (Zined), 34th, Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.
Second half—4, Chicago, Anangono 1 (Magee), 86th.

Goals—Philadelphia, Zac MacMath; Chicago, Sean Johnson.

Yellow cards—Duka, Chicago, 64th; Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Red cards—Laba, Vancouver, 87th; A—21,000.

Union 2, Fire 2
0-2-2
0-2-2
First half—1, Chicago, Magee 1 (Amara), 16th minute, 2, Philadelphia, Edu 1 (Zined), 34th, Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Second half—4, Chicago, Anangono 1 (Magee), 86th.

Goals—Philadelphia, Zac MacMath; Chicago, Sean Johnson.

Yellow cards—Duka, Chicago, 64th; Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Red cards—Laba, Vancouver, 87th; A—21,000.

Union 2, Fire 2
0-2-2
0-2-2
First half—1, Chicago, Magee 1 (Amara), 16th minute, 2, Philadelphia, Edu 1 (Zined), 34th, Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Second half—4, Chicago, Anangono 1 (Magee), 86th.

Goals—Philadelphia, Zac MacMath; Chicago, Sean Johnson.

Yellow cards—Duka, Chicago, 64th; Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Red cards—Laba, Vancouver, 87th; A—21,000.

Union 2, Fire 2
0-2-2
0-2-2
First half—1, Chicago, Magee 1 (Amara), 16th minute, 2, Philadelphia, Edu 1 (Zined), 34th, Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Second half—4, Chicago, Anangono 1 (Magee), 86th.

Goals—Philadelphia, Zac MacMath; Chicago, Sean Johnson.

Yellow cards—Duka, Chicago, 64th; Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Red cards—Laba, Vancouver, 87th; A—21,000.

Union 2, Fire 2
0-2-2
0-2-2
First half—1, Chicago, Magee 1 (Amara), 16th minute, 2, Philadelphia, Edu 1 (Zined), 34th, Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Second half—4, Chicago, Anangono 1 (Magee), 86th.

Goals—Philadelphia, Zac MacMath; Chicago, Sean Johnson.

Yellow cards—Duka, Chicago, 64th; Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Red cards—Laba, Vancouver, 87th; A—21,000.

Union 2, Fire 2
0-2-2
0-2-2
First half—1, Chicago, Magee 1 (Amara), 16th minute, 2, Philadelphia, Edu 1 (Zined), 34th, Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Second half—4, Chicago, Anangono 1 (Magee), 86th.

Goals—Philadelphia, Zac MacMath; Chicago, Sean Johnson.

Yellow cards—Duka, Chicago, 64th; Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Red cards—Laba, Vancouver, 87th; A—21,000.

Union 2, Fire 2
0-2-2
0-2-2
First half—1, Chicago, Magee 1 (Amara), 16th minute, 2, Philadelphia, Edu 1 (Zined), 34th, Philadelphia, Fernandez 2, 39th.

Tennis

Abierto Monterrey

Saturday
At Sierra Madre Tennis Club
Monterrey, Mexico
Purse: \$500,000 (441)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Semifinals
Jovana Jakic, Serbia, def. Sergio Domazovic, Serbia, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-4.
Ana Ivanovic, (2) Serbia, def. Caroline Wozniacki, (3) Denmark, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Family Circle Cup
Saturday
At The Family Circle Tennis Center
Charleston, S.C.
Purse: \$710,000 (Premier)
Surface: Green Clay-Outdoor

Singles
Semifinals
Andrea Petkovic, (4) Germany, def. Eugenie Bouchard, (6) Canada, 1-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Benic Capelova, Slovakia, def. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 6-4, 5-7, 7-6 (7).

Davis Cup Results
WORLD GROUP
Quarterfinals
Winners to semifinals, Sept. 12-14
Czech Republic 3, Japan 0
At Ariake Coliseum

Tokyo
Surface: Hard-Indoor
Radek Stanek, Czech Republic, def. Tatsuma Ito, Japan, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (5), 6-1.

Lukas Rosol, Czech Republic, def. Ryo Daniel, Japan, 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

Peter Golovick, Czech Republic, def. Yuta Uchiyama, Japan, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

At Tennis Club Napoli
Naples, Italy
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Fabio Fognini, Italy, def. James Ward, France, 4-6, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Andy Murray, Britain, def. Andreas Seppi, Italy, 6-4, 6-3, 6-1.

NBA

Roundup

Jefferson leads Bobcats to playoff-clinching victory

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — No one will fault the Charlotte Bobcats for taking a moment to savor their second postseason appearance in franchise history.

"They've come a long way in a short period of time."

Al Jefferson scored 24 points, including seven in overtime, and the Bobcats clinched a playoff spot with a 96-94 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Saturday night.

Charlotte is in the postseason for the second time in its 10-year history and the first time since 2010. The Bobcats (39-38) are over .500 for the second time this season and hold seventh place in the Eastern Conference.

Steve Clifford, the Bobcats' third coach in three seasons, praised his team's character.

"This is a significant accomplishment for our group of guys, and it puts us in a different place in the league," he said. "The guys in the locker room are excited and they should be, because we've got a good group of guys and a group of guys who are truly deserving."

While the Bobcats were celebrating, the Cavaliers' slim playoff hopes suffered yet another damaging loss despite a career-high 44 points from Kyrie Irving. Cleveland (31-47) trails eighth-place Atlanta by 3½ games for the final playoff spot in the East.

The Bobcats have made significant progress since finishing 7-59 in the lockout-shortened 2011-12 season. Charlotte was 21-61 last season.

"Words can't describe it," guard Kemba Walker said. "For me, Gerald (Henderson), and Biz (Bismack Biyombo), we were the original guys here. We were on the worst team my first two years, so to go from there to here, it's like night and day."

Henderson's basket gave Charlotte a 90-89 lead with 1:08 remaining and the Bobcats made four free throws down the stretch to seal the win. Walker scored 20 points and Henderson added 15 for the Bobcats, who have won four straight and swept the five-game season series with Cleveland.

Nets 105, 76ers 101: Kevin Garnett scored 10 points in his first game in more than five weeks to help visiting Brooklyn beat Philadelphia.

The 37-year-old Garnett missed 19 straight games since Feb. 27 because of back spasms. The Nets went 14-5 in that span.

Garnett was back in the starting lineup and was sharp from the start. He scored on an alley-oop in the first quarter, made his first four shots, and had a nasty block on Miami's Carter. Williams' layup attempt that knocked



MARK DUNCAN/AP

Charlotte's Al Jefferson shoots over Cavaliers Spencer Hawes, left, and Luol Deng during the first quarter on Saturday in Cleveland. The Bobcats won in OT to clinch a playoff berth.

the rookie guard to the ground. Garnett also passed Al English to move into 14th on the NBA's career scoring list.

Raptors 102, Bucks 98: At Milwaukee, DeMar DeRozan scored 15 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter and Toronto kept pace in the hunt for playoff position.

The Raptors and Chicago Bulls, who beat Washington on Saturday, are 45-32 and tied for the third seed in the Eastern Conference with five games to play.

Milwaukee fell to an NBA-worst 14-63, guaranteeing the team's worst record in its 45-year history.

Greivis Vasquez tied a season-high with 26 points for Toronto, which has won three consecutive games and six of seven. Vasquez, who averages 9.1 points, made up the scoring loss when starting Kyle Lowry missed the game with a bruised left kneecap.

Bulls 96, Wizards 78: At Washington, D.C., Augustin scored 25 points, Joakim Noah had 21 points and 12 rebounds, and Chicago turned a possible first-round playoff preview into a laughter.

Augustin made six of 11 three-pointers — but only two of eight two-pointers — and Carlos Boozer added 16 points for the Bulls, who have won five straight and are battling the Toronto Raptors

for the No. 3 seed in the Eastern Conference.

John Wall scored 20 points, and Marcin Gortat had 19 for the Wizards, who sit in sixth place in the East. If they hold that spot, they would face the third-seeded team.

Magic 100, Timberwolves 92: Arron Afflalo scored 18 points and Tobias Harris and Maurice Harkless added 17 apiece to lead host Orlando over short-handed Minnesota.

Rookie Victor Oladipo contributed 16 points and six assists to help Orlando snap a three-game losing streak. Kyle O'Quinn had 14 points and 13 rebounds.

Ricky Rubio had 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who played without their three leading scorers, Kevin Love, Kevin Martin and Nikola Pekovic, all out with injuries.

Pistons 115, Celtics 111: Rodney Stuckey came off the bench to score 26 points and help host Detroit rally past Boston.

The Pistons trailed by as many as 19 points in third quarter and were down 95-85 at the start of the fourth before going on a 15-4 run that gave them their first lead since early in the game. The teams traded the lead several times before Stuckey made a pair of free throws with 57 seconds left to break a 111-111 tie.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|--------------|----|----|------|-----|
| y-Miami | 52 | 23 | 69.1 | |
| y-Indiana | 45 | 33 | 57.3 | |
| y-Toronto | 42 | 35 | 54.8 | 8 |
| x-Chicago | 32 | 45 | 41.5 | 24 |
| x-Brooklyn | 42 | 34 | 55.3 | 10½ |
| x-Washington | 40 | 37 | 51.9 | 13 |
| x-Charlotte | 39 | 38 | 50.6 | 14 |
| Atlanta | 33 | 44 | 43.0 | 19 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|------|-----|
| New York | 33 | 44 | 42.9 | 20 |
| Cleveland | 25 | 47 | 34.2 | 29½ |
| Detroit | 28 | 49 | 36.4 | 30 |
| Boston | 23 | 54 | 29.9 | 35 |
| Orlando | 22 | 55 | 28.6 | 31 |
| Philadelphia | 17 | 60 | 22.1 | 36 |
| Milwaukee | 14 | 63 | 18.2 | 39 |

Western Conference

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------------|----|----|------|-----|
| y-San Antonio | 59 | 17 | 77.6 | |
| y-Oklahoma City | 55 | 20 | 73.3 | 3½ |
| y-L.A. Clippers | 54 | 23 | 70.1 | 5½ |
| x-Houston | 50 | 27 | 64.7 | 8½ |
| Portland | 49 | 28 | 63.6 | 10½ |
| Golden State | 47 | 29 | 61.8 | 12 |
| Dallas | 46 | 31 | 59.7 | 13½ |
| Memphis | 45 | 31 | 59.2 | 14 |

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|----|
| Phoenix | 45 | 31 | 59.2 | 14 |
| Minnesota | 38 | 38 | 50.0 | 21 |
| Denver | 33 | 43 | 43.6 | 26 |
| New Orleans | 32 | 44 | 42.1 | 27 |
| Sacramento | 27 | 49 | 35.2 | 32 |
| L.A. Lakers | 25 | 51 | 32.9 | 34 |
| Utah | 24 | 52 | 31.6 | 35 |

x-clinched playoff spot; y-clinched division

Friday's games
 Memphis 100, Denver 92
 Toronto 102, Indiana 96
 Charlotte 91, Orlando 80
 Brooklyn 116, Detroit 104
 Philadelphia 111, Boston 102
 Minnesota 122, Miami 121, TOT
 Atlanta 117, Cleveland 98
 Washington 90, New York 89
 Orlando 102, Milwaukee 93
 Utah 100, New Orleans 96
 Houston 111, Oklahoma City 107
 Phoenix 109, Portland 93
 Golden State 102, Sacramento 99
 Dallas 107, L.A. Lakers 95

Saturday's games
 Orlando 109, Miami 92
 Chicago 96, Washington 78
 Brooklyn 105, Philadelphia 101
 Charlotte 96, Cleveland 94, OT
 Detroit 115, Boston 111
 Toronto 102, Milwaukee 98

Sunday's games
 New York at L.A. Clippers
 Dallas at Sacramento
 Atlanta at Indiana
 Denver at Houston
 Memphis at San Antonio
 Oklahoma City at Phoenix
 Cleveland at Golden State
 New Orleans at Portland

No games scheduled

Tuesday's games
 Detroit at Atlanta
 San Antonio at Minnesota
 Philadelphia at Miami
 Dallas at Utah
 Phoenix at City at Sacramento
 Houston at L.A. Lakers

Saturday Raptors 102, Bucks 98

TORONTO — Ross 2-9 2-22, Patterson 2-9 2-27, Valanciunas 7-11 3-5 17, O'Quinn 3-13 3-19, McGruder 2-10 2-10, Knight 2-3 4-10 23, Hansbrough 2-10 2-12, Hayes 0-2 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-81 18 22 102.

MILWAUKEE — Middleton 6-8 8-20, Adrien 0-1 1-13, Fitchell 0-1 0-0 0-0, Knight 6-15 3-15, Sessions 5-13 2-13, Henson 10-13 4-24, Totals 38-79 21 27 98.

Washington 22 34 25 72-102
 Three-point Goals—Toronto 12-27 (Gortat 6-6, Salmons 5-6, Ross 2-7); Milwaukee 1-4, Novak 0-1, DeRozan 0-1. Milwaukee missed 1-2, Antetokounmpo 1-2, O'Leary 1-2, Totals 10-27. Foul—Toronto 14, Milwaukee 13. Rebounds—Toronto 47, Milwaukee 33. Milwaukee 49 (Adrien 12), Assists—Toronto 20 (De Colo 6), Milwaukee 22 (Adrien 7). Totals 100-92.

Bulls 96, Wizards 78
 Chicago—Dunleavy 3-2 2-8, Boozer 6-7 2-15, 3-13, 2-15, Smith 4-6 0-1 11, Butler 1-9 1-23, Gibson 3-8 3-9, Augustin 8-19 3-4 25, Mchammad 0-0 0-0 0-0, O'Leary 0-1 1-13, Fitchell 0-1 0-0 0-0, Shengelia 1-2 0-0 2, Totals 35-79 21 27 96.

Washington 22 34 25 72-102
 Three-point Goals—Toronto 12-27 (Gortat 6-6, Salmons 5-6, Ross 2-7); Milwaukee 1-4, Novak 0-1, DeRozan 0-1. Milwaukee missed 1-2, Antetokounmpo 1-2, O'Leary 1-2, Totals 10-27. Foul—Toronto 14, Milwaukee 13. Rebounds—Toronto 47, Milwaukee 33. Milwaukee 49 (Adrien 12), Assists—Toronto 20 (De Colo 6), Milwaukee 22 (Adrien 7). Totals 100-92.

Bulls 96, Wizards 78
 Chicago—Dunleavy 3-2 2-8, Boozer 6-7 2-15, 3-13, 2-15, Smith 4-6 0-1 11, Butler 1-9 1-23, Gibson 3-8 3-9, Augustin 8-19 3-4 25, Mchammad 0-0 0-0 0-0, O'Leary 0-1 1-13, Fitchell 0-1 0-0 0-0, Shengelia 1-2 0-0 2, Totals 35-79 21 27 96.

Washington 22 34 25 72-102
 Three-point Goals—Chicago 9-25 (Augustin 6-11, Hinch 3-4, Smith 0-0), Dunleavy 0-3, Butler 0-4, Washington 3-16 0-0 0-0, Porter 2-2 2-2, Harrington 0-1, Goden 0-1, Webster 0-2, Beal 0-3, O'Leary 0-0 0-0, Totals 35-79 21 27 96.

Bobcats 96, Cavaliers 94 (OT)

CHARLOTTE — Kidd-Gilchrist 2-4 0-1 4, Cezler 4-6 4-12, Jefferson 9-21 6-8 24, Walker 7-23 3-4 20, Henderson 5-13 4-4 15, Neal 0-5 0-0, Richmond 3-9 8-20, Douglas-Roberts 3-9 2-29, Tolliver 2-5 0-6, Biyombo 0-1 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-81 19 27 96.

CLEVELAND — Deng 2-10 1-15, Thompson 2-8 0-4, Hawes 3-9 2-29, Irving 16-31 7-8 44, Walters 5-15 1-5 14, Wardlaw 0-0 0-0 4, Jack 1-8 3-5, Zeller 2-6 1-15, Dellavedova 1-3 0-0 2, Gee 1-2 0-2 2, Totals 36-81 19 27 96.

Charlotte 17 23 22 20 14-36
 Three-point Goals—Charlotte 9-26 (Walker 3-8, Riddour 2-2, Tolliver 2-5, Henderson 3-1, Douglas-Roberts 1-4, Neal 0-5, Cleveland 7-22 (Irving 5-9, Hawes 1-5, Walters 1-4, Gee 0-1, Jack 0-1, Dellavedova 0-2, Deng 0-3). Fouled Out—Varejao, Rebounds—Charlotte 68 (Jefferson 15), Cleveland 62 (Thompson 12). Assists—Charlotte 23 (Walker 7), Cleveland 22 (Irving 8). Totals Fouls—Charlotte 19, Cleveland 18. Technicals—None, Charlotte defensive three second. A—18,179 (25,562).

Pistons 115, Celtics 111

BOSTON — Green 8-21 4-4 23, Bass 6-8 0-18, Sullinger 6-12 2-20, Pressley 6-12 0-10, Bayless 10-19 0-25, Johnson 2-0 0-0 0-0, Olynyk 4-6 1-11, Anthony 0-9 0-0 0-0, Babb 0-4 0-0 0-0, Totals 88-16 11 111.

DETROIT — Smith 4-9 1-2 11, Monroe 8-12 5-21, Drummond 9-11 1-2 19, Jennings 6-15 4-5 20, Singler 6-6 6-6, Stuckey 8-17 10-12 26, Caldwell-Pope 1-1 0-3, Jerabek 2-6 0-6 5, Siva 0-3 3-4, Totals 38-79 30 30 115.

Boston 22 33 30 30-115
 Three-point Goals—Boston 14-31 (Bayless 5-6, Sullinger 4-6, Green 3-10, Pressley 2-4, Olynyk 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Babb 0-3). Detroit 9-23 (Jennings 4-6, Jerabek 2-4, Smith 2-5, Caldwell-Pope 1-2, Singler 0-1, Stuckey 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Boston 46 (Sullinger 10), Detroit 50 (Drummond 20). Assists—Boston 25 (Pressley 4), Detroit 18 (Siva 5). Total Fouls—Boston 24, Detroit 16. Technicals—Bass, Flagrantly Foul—Bayless, A—16,558 (22,076).

Nets 105, 76ers 101

BROOKLYN — Johnson 4-9 2-2 12, Pierce 10-20 4-10 26, Thomas 6-6 6-6 10, D.Williams 6-11 6-19, Livingston 2-6 0-2 4, Plumlee 8-10 0-16, Thornton 1-0 6-8 3, Teletovic 1-2 0-3 1, Kirilenko 3-4 0-6 6, Blatche 4-8 2-8 10, Anderson 2-4 1-5 10, Totals 41-80 17 22 105.

PHILADELPHIA — Thompson 6-9 0-18, Young 8-18 1-20, Sims 4-6 1-11, Carter 2-3 0-4 0-0 0-0, Fournier 2-9 0-0 0-0, Varnado 1-3 2-2 4, E.Williams 4-8 3-3 11, Wroten 6-13 3-15, Nunnally 1-1 1-3, Davis 1-2 0-2, Totals 39-79 17 22 101.

Brooklyn 27 30 24-105
 Philadelphia 21 21 27 32-101
 Three-point Goals—Brooklyn 6-21 (Johnson 2-5, Teletovic 1-2, Pierce 1-4, D.Williams 1-4, Thornton 1-5, Anderson 0-1-1), Philadelphia 10-23 (Thompson 6-8, Young 3-5, Anderson 1-5, Wroten 0-2, E.Williams 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Brooklyn 40 (Sims 11), Assists—Brooklyn 29 (D.Williams 9), Philadelphia 27 (Carter 7, Fournier 4). Total Fouls—Brooklyn 20, Philadelphia 26. Technicals—Brooklyn defensive three second. A—16,133 (22,526).

Magic 100, Timberwolves 92

MILWAUKEE — Brewer 5-9 5-25, Cunningham 6-8 1-10, Tolbert 2-9 0-0 0-0, Rubio 7-12 4-18, Budinger 0-1 2-2 2, Mbah 10-26 4-6 2-10, Shved 0-4 0-1 2, Turiaf 2-3 0-4 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-81 19 27 96.

Houston 7-9 0-9 0-0
 O'Quinn 6-7 2-14, Dedmon 1-5 0-0 2, Nelson 1-6 0-2, Afflalo 8-15 1-4 18, Nicholson 1-2 0-0 0-0, Harris 1-2 0-0 0-0, 7-12 0-16, Lamb 2-4 0-5, Moore 4-5 0-9 0-0, Totals 43-79 5-10 50.

Minnesota 25 21 28-100
 Three-point Goals—Minnesota 1-15 (Rebounds—Brooklyn 40, Philadelphia 27).

Magic 100, Timberwolves 92
 Milwaukee—Brewer 5-9 5-25, Cunningham 6-8 1-10, Tolbert 2-9 0-0 0-0, Rubio 7-12 4-18, Budinger 0-1 2-2 2, Mbah 10-26 4-6 2-10, Shved 0-4 0-1 2, Turiaf 2-3 0-4 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-81 19 27 96.

Houston 7-9 0-9 0-0
 O'Quinn 6-7 2-14, Dedmon 1-5 0-0 2, Nelson 1-6 0-2, Afflalo 8-15 1-4 18, Nicholson 1-2 0-0 0-0, Harris 1-2 0-0 0-0, 7-12 0-16, Lamb 2-4 0-5, Moore 4-5 0-9 0-0, Totals 43-79 5-10 50.

Minnesota 25 21 28-100
 Three-point Goals—Minnesota 1-15 (Rebounds—Brooklyn 40, Philadelphia 27).

Magic 100, Timberwolves 92
 Milwaukee—Brewer 5-9 5-25, Cunningham 6-8 1-10, Tolbert 2-9 0-0 0-0, Rubio 7-12 4-18, Budinger 0-1 2-2 2, Mbah 10-26 4-6 2-10, Shved 0-4 0-1 2, Turiaf 2-3 0-4 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-81 19 27 96.

Houston 7-9 0-9 0-0
 O'Quinn 6-7 2-14, Dedmon 1-5 0-0 2, Nelson 1-6 0-2, Afflalo 8-15 1-4 18, Nicholson 1-2 0-0 0-0, Harris 1-2 0-0 0-0, 7-12 0-16, Lamb 2-4 0-5, Moore 4-5 0-9 0-0, Totals 43-79 5-10 50.

Minnesota 25 21 28-100
 Three-point Goals—Minnesota 1-15 (Rebounds—Brooklyn 40, Philadelphia 27).

Magic 100, Timberwolves 92
 Milwaukee—Brewer 5-9 5-25, Cunningham 6-8 1-10, Tolbert 2-9 0-0 0-0, Rubio 7-12 4-18, Budinger 0-1 2-2 2, Mbah 10-26 4-6 2-10, Shved 0-4 0-1 2, Turiaf 2-3 0-4 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-81 19 27 96.

Houston 7-9 0-9 0-0
 O'Quinn 6-7 2-14, Dedmon 1-5 0-0 2, Nelson 1-6 0-2, Afflalo 8-15 1-4 18, Nicholson 1-2 0-0 0-0, Harris 1-2 0-0 0-0, 7-12 0-16, Lamb 2-4 0-5, Moore 4-5 0-9 0-0, Totals 43-79 5-10 50.

Minnesota 25 21 28-100
 Three-point Goals—Minnesota 1-15 (Rebounds—Brooklyn 40, Philadelphia 27).

Magic 100, Timberwolves 92
 Milwaukee—Brewer 5-9 5-25, Cunningham 6-8 1-10, Tolbert 2-9 0-0 0-0, Rubio 7-12 4-18, Budinger 0-1 2-2 2, Mbah 10-26 4-6 2-10, Shved 0-4 0-1 2, Turiaf 2-3 0-4 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-81 19 27 96.

Houston 7-9 0-9 0-0
 O'Quinn 6-7 2-14, Dedmon 1-5 0-0 2, Nelson 1-6 0-2, Afflalo 8-15 1-4 18, Nicholson 1-2 0-0 0-0, Harris 1-2 0-0 0-0, 7-12 0-16, Lamb 2-4 0-5, Moore 4-5 0-9 0-0, Totals 43-79 5-10 50.

Minnesota 25 21 28-100
 Three-point Goals—Minnesota 1-15 (Rebounds—Brooklyn 40, Philadelphia 27).

Calendar

April 16 — Day of regular season.

April 19 — Playoffs begin.

May 20 — Draft lottery.

May 21 — NBA Finals begin.

June 16 — Draft early entry withdrawal deadline.

June 26 — NBA Draft.

Nationals' 3B Zimmerman undergoes MRI



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MLB

Hot Marlins stop Padres for 5-1 mark

By STEVEN WINE
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Jose Fernandez allowed his first two walks of the season and they came back to back. When his foot slipped on a delivery, the pitch bounced several feet in front of the plate. One frustrating inning ended with the Miami Marlins' precocious ace shaking his head and screaming angrily into his glove.

Fernandez was at less than his best Saturday, but still good enough to beat the San Diego Padres. He struck out eight in 6½ innings while lowering his ERA to 0.71, and Miami beat the punchless San Diego Padres 5-0.

The Marlins improved to 5-1, their best start since 2009. Last year their fifth victory came in their 21st game, and they finished with 100 losses.

"Another win. It's incredible," Fernandez said. "To be 5-1 is pretty amazing."

Fernandez (2-0) improved his career record at home to 11-0, despite being miffed about a high pitch count early in the game.

"He's such a great competitor," manager Mike Redmond said. "He wasn't as sharp as I've seen. But his stuff is so good, he still has the ability to make his pitches when he needs to."

Fernandez, who threw 108 pitches, left the game annoyed after throwing a wild pitch on a strikeout that allowed Alexi Amarista to reach base with two outs in the seventh. But he allowed only three hits and two walks.

"I threw a lot of pitches — not what I wanted to do," Fernandez said. "But we won. That's what I care about."

Giancarlo Stanton had two RBIs to increase his season total to 11, one more than teammate Casey McGehee, who began the day leading the NL. Four of the Marlins' runs scored with two outs.

"There's a lot of good stuff going on right now," Redmond said.

Andrew Cashner (0-1) allowed only two runs in six innings, but the offensively challenged Padres reached a new low — for the first time, they were shut out. They've scored eight runs this season, won in four majors, and have lost four in a row since a win on Opening Day.



ALAN DIAZ/AP

Miami Marlins' Giancarlo Stanton hits a seventh-inning RBI double against the San Diego Padres on Sunday in Miami.



JOHN MINICHILO/AP

New York Mets first baseman Ike Davis, right, hits a walk-off grand slam in the ninth inning as the Mets defeated the Cincinnati Reds 6-3 on Saturday at Citi Field, in New York.

Mets rally to defeat Reds on Davis' walk-off slam

By HOWIE RUMBERG
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — After a demoralizing start to the season where nothing seemed to go their way, the New York Mets are making all the right calls.

Pinch-hitter Ike Davis hit a walk-off grand slam one batter after manager Terry Collins won his first replay challenge, and the Mets rallied to beat the Cincinnati Reds 6-3 on Saturday at Citi Field.

"That was tremendous ending especially for Ike going thru what he's going through," Collins said. "To come in in a big situation and come through, that's great stuff."

Brandon Phillips gave the Reds a 3-2 lead with a two-run homer off Dillon Gee in the eighth, two innings after Curtis Granderson connected for a two-run drive off Johnny Cueto, his first homer with the Mets.

Trailing by a run in the ninth, Juan Lagares walked leading off against fill-in closer J.J. Hoover. Anthony Recker got a bunt down on a ball that was above his eyes, and first baseman Joey Votto threw to shortstop Zack Cozart covering second. Second base umpire James Hoyer called Lagares out.

Running down the first base line, Recker knew the Mets had an opportunity.

"As soon as he called him out I was thinking to myself how we should challenge it," Recker said.

So was Collins. After a review of 2 minutes, 14 seconds, the call was overturned by crew chief John Hirschbeck.

"You've got to go out," Collins said. "Took a chance. But you've got to. It's just a close play anyway. We've got that opportunity to challenge that, so I had to take a shot at it."

Reds first-year manager Bryan Price agreed with the call.

"They got it right and as frustrating as it was, we anticipated we were going to get the switch," Price said.

Hoover (1-1), pitching the ninth for Arodis Chapman who is out after being hit in the face by a line drive during spring training, then walked Ruben Tejada to load the bases.

"That leadoff walk, didn't give myself any chance really," Hoover said.

Davis lost his starting first base job to Lucas Duda a day earlier, but was called on to hit in the pitcher's spot and lined a 0-1 curveball off the facing of the right field porch, setting off a gleeful celebration at Citi Field that included a whipped cream pie in Davis' face.

Collins said Davis will start Sunday against Alfredo Simon, a decision made before the game.

"As long as Duda keeps hitting that's going to be my role," Davis said.

Duda hit two homers Friday night in the Mets' 4-3 win over the Reds.

The Mets won their second straight after being swept by Washington in three games to open the season. Cincinnati dropped to 1-4 for the first time since 2003, when it finished 69-93.

The Mets beleaguered bullpen came through, too. Scott Rice got two outs and Carlos Torres (1-0) worked a scoreless ninth to give the Mets a chance.

In a blustery wind with gusts up to 35 mph that sent papers swirling around Citi Field, Cueto and Gee were dominant early against two of the league's worst hitting teams this far.

Cueto did not allow a hit until Tejada doubled with one out in the fifth inning and Gee was perfect until Tucker Barnhart, subbing for injured catcher Devin Mesoraco (oblique strain), lined his first big league hit to right field with one out in the third.

Cueto gave up five hits and two runs, lifting any lingering worry about his health after he made only 11 starts last season. He struck out nine and walked three — one intentionally.

Gee allowed six hits and a walk. He struck out four.

Tigers beat O's to stay undefeated

By NOAH TRISTAN
The Associated Press

DETROIT — Torii Hunter and the Detroit Tigers are baseball's only undefeated team.

The only team that can still make goofy statements like this. "Hopefully we go 162-0," the always-upbeat Hunter said. "It would be awesome."

Hunter homered and drove in five runs, and the Tigers withstood a five-run ninth inning by Baltimore to beat the Orioles 7-6 on Saturday. Joe Nathan got the final two outs for his first save with Detroit, retiring Chris Davis on a flyout with two on to end it.

Hunter hit a three-run double in the third, then added a two-run drive in the fifth for his second homer of the year. The Tigers have 17 runs and 30 hits in their past two games.

"I like this ballclub," Hunter said. "You talk about a very athletic team, doesn't strike out much at all, and will make good contact. We've got some guys that have professional at-bats."

Rick Porcello (1-0) allowed a run and three hits in 6½ innings in his first start of the season, but the Tigers (4-0) had to hold on when the Orioles nearly pulled off a remarkable comeback.

Detroit led 7-1 entering the ninth, but Phil Coke and Al Alburquerque couldn't close out the Orioles. Nathan came on with two on, one out and the score 7-3.

Steve Lombardozzi singled to deep right to load the bases and pinch-hitter Steve Clevenger's double made it 7-5. David Lough brought home another run with a grounder to shortstop Alex Gonzalez, who threw wide of first for an error.

With men on first and second, Nathan struck out Nelson Cruz and got Davis on a lazy fly to left.

"The momentum's obviously swinging their way," said Nathan, who signed with the Tigers in the offseason as a free agent. "Sometimes the hardest thing to do in those situations is stop the bleeding."

Bud Norris (0-1) allowed five runs and nine hits in five innings, and the Orioles lost their fourth straight.



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Outfielders Rajai Davis (20), Austin Jackson and Torii Hunter, right, celebrate their 7-6 win over Baltimore on Saturday.

MLB



WINSLOW TOWNSEND/AP

The Brewers' Logan Schafer, right, watches his RBI-double Saturday during the 11th inning against the Red Sox in Boston. Schafer drove in the winning run of Milwaukee's 7-6 victory.

NL roundup

Brewers turn back Red Sox

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The new World Series championship banner was blowing stiffly from left field to right. The wind caught the bunting behind home plate and puffed it out like a pillow.

And in the dugout, the Milwaukee Brewers were ready to end this game.

"It was freezing," right fielder Logan Schafer said. "We were all really cold so we said, 'Hey, let's hurry up so we can go home.'"

Khris Davis doubled in the 11th inning and scored on Schafer's double on Saturday night as the Brewers beat the Red Sox 7-6 to hand Boston its second straight defeat. With a gametime temperature of 48 degrees that dropped into the 30s by the extra innings, when all but a few thousand or so fans had left, Davis had four of Milwaukee's 19 hits.

"My body is mad at me right now," he said. "It's hard to stay warm out there."

Tyler Thornburg (1-0) earned the win with a perfect 10th inning. Burke Badenhop (0-1) came in to start the 11th and gave up Davis' one-out double, then Scha-

fer one-hopped the Green Monster between the left and center fielders.

Francisco Rodriguez struck out the side in the 11th for his second save. The Brewers led 3-0 and 6-2 before allowing Boston to come back with two errors that led to four earned runs. Milwaukee batters struck out 18 times — the most for Boston at Fenway since Roger Clemens fanned 20 for the first time, on April 29, 1986.

"You don't feel good about the game when it's happening like that," Brewers manager Ron Roenicke said.

Braves 6, Nationals 2: Julio Teheran allowed two runs in seven solid innings and had two hits, and visiting Atlanta knocked out Stephen Strasburg in the fifth inning.

Phillies 2, Cubs 0: Chase Utley went 3-for-3 and homered for the second time in a row, and Cliff Lee pitched seven scoreless innings to lead visiting Philadelphia.

Dominic Brown drove in Utley for the Phillies' other run with a single in the fourth inning.

Giants 7, Dodgers 2: Madison Bumgarner struck out 10 while working into the seventh inning

and visiting San Francisco hit three home runs.

Yasiel Puig started in right field and batted leadoff for the Dodgers a day after he was benched for arriving late for stretching and batting practice.

Cardinals 4, Pirates 1: Yadier Molina hit his second homer of the season and Jhonny Peralta added a late two-run shot for visiting St. Louis.

Molina finished 2-for-4 and his solo homer in the sixth gave the Cardinals plenty of cushion as they bounced back from a 12-2 loss on Friday night by jumping on Pittsburgh ace Francisco Liriano (0-1) early.

Rockies 9, Diamondbacks 4: Nolan Arenado homered twice, rookie right-hander Tommy Kahnle picked up his first major league victory and host Colorado overcame a four-run deficit.

Charlie Blackmon went 3-for-4, tying the Rockies' franchise record with nine hits in consecutive games, a mark set by Juan Pierre in September 2002. After going 6-for-6 Friday, Blackmon singled his first time up, and then grounded out to first base before adding two more singles.

AL roundup

Hernandez, Seattle shut down Oakland

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Felix Hernandez has never felt better at the beginning of a season. That certainly bodes well for the former Cy Young Award winner.

Hernandez took a shutout into the ninth inning, Dustin Ackley and Abraham Almonte hit home runs and the Mariners beat the Oakland Athletics 3-1 Saturday.

Hernandez (2-0) retired the first 11 batters on the way to his 16th career win over the Athletics, his most against any team. Hernandez walked one and struck out eight while allowing a run on six hits over 8 1/3 innings.

"My pitches were looking good all day long," Hernandez said. "I could throw them all for strikes. I felt strong and my pitches were there. Physically I feel great and I have all my pitches."

Fernando Rodney, who struggled during spring training, got the final two outs to record his first save with the Mariners. Robinson Cano had two hits.

"I'm just working on locating my fastball in spring," Rodney said. "It was real good today; it's the season."

Dan Straily (0-1) allowed three runs on six hits over his six innings. He walked one and struck out seven.

"It was disappointing," Straily said. "A two-seamer comes back over the plate and I yanked one. I did a good job of executing the game plan minus those two pitches."

Straily carried a shutout into the fifth inning before Ackley's towering two-run shot gave the Mariners a 2-0 lead. With two outs, Almonte drove Straily's 1-0 pitch even deeper into the right field bleachers.

"After seeing him a couple of times you get used to what he's got and can throw out better at bats," Ackley said. "There was a runner on third, maybe he's thinking about him, and gives me a pitch to hit."

The way Hernandez was pitching, the run support was more than enough.

"I'd say for seven innings that might be the best we've seen him," A's manager Bob Melvin said. "It seemed like his fastball had a little extra hop and he mixed in his breaking stuff well."

Jed Lowrie, who hit a home run leading off the ninth, broke

up Hernandez's no-hit bid with a two-out single in the fourth.

Brandon Moss, who had two hits, followed with a bloop double but Hernandez struck out Yoenis Cespedes on three pitches.

"I saw the same guy I saw last week," Mariners' manager Lloyd McClendon said. "He's pretty good. I'll take that every time."

Coco Crisp tripled with one out in the sixth but was stranded there when Josh Donaldson struck out and Lowrie popped out.

Hernandez, who turns 28 on Tuesday, ranks fourth on the all-time list with 1,722 strikeouts before the age of 28 behind Sam McDowell, Bert Blyleven and Walter Johnson.

Twins 7, Indians 3: Kyle Gibson limited Cleveland to one run in his season debut after Brian Dozier led off the game with a home run, leading visiting Minnesota and giving Twins manager Ron Gardenhire his 1,000th career victory.

Gibson (1-0) allowed three hits in five-plus innings as the Twins snapped a seven-game losing streak against the Indians.

Rays 5, Rangers 4: James Loney hit a go-ahead, two-run double in the eighth inning for host Tampa Bay.

Loney lined an opposite-field drive off Neal Cotts (0-1) that went over left fielder Shin-Soo Choo and put the Rays up 5-4. Brandon Gomes (1-0) pitched a perfect eighth before Grant Balfour got the final three outs for his first save.

Blue Jays 4, Yankees 0: R.A. Dickey and three relievers combined for a shutout, and Jose Bautista and Melky Cabrera homered for host Toronto.

Angels 5, Astros 1: Josh Hamilton hit a two-run home run and Tyler Skaggs pitched eight innings of four-hit ball for visiting L.A.

Skaggs (1-0) allowed an unearned run and struck out five. Skaggs was making his Angels debut after being acquired in the offseason from Arizona in a trade that sent outfielder Mark Trumbo to the Diamondbacks.

Royals 4, White Sox 3: Salvador Perez hit a go-ahead RBI double with two outs in the eighth inning for host Kansas City.

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| Baltimore | 3 2 .500 | 1 1/2 |
| Boston | 3 2 .500 | 1 1/2 |
| New York | 2 3 .400 | 2 1/2 |
| Baltimore | 2 3 .400 | 2 1/2 |
| Central Division | | |
| Detroit | 1 .000 | |
| Cleveland | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 2 3 .400 | 2 1/2 |
| Chicago | 2 3 .400 | 2 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 2 3 .400 | 2 1/2 |
| West Division | | |
| Seattle | 4 1 .800 | |
| Houston | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| Los Angeles | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| Los Angeles | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| Texas | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |

National League

| West Division | Pct | GB |
|------------------|----------|-------|
| Milwaukee | 4 1 .800 | |
| Philadelphia | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 2 3 .400 | 2 1/2 |
| Central Division | | |
| Milwaukee | 3 2 .600 | |
| Pittsburgh | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| East Division | | |
| San Francisco | 3 2 .600 | |
| Los Angeles | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| San Francisco | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| San Francisco | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |

Friday's games

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Detroit 10, Baltimore 4 | |
| Milwaukee 6, Boston 1 | |
| Cleveland 7, Minnesota 2 | |
| Washington 4, Chicago White Sox 5 | |
| N.Y. Yankees 7, Toronto 3 | |
| Tampa Bay 6, Texas 1 | |
| Seattle 12, Arizona 2 | |
| Philadelphia 7, Chicago Cubs 2 | |
| San Francisco 8, L.A. Dodgers 4 | |
| San Francisco 4, Chicago White Sox 3 | |
| Seattle 3, Oakland 1 | |
| L.A. Angels 5, Houston 1 | |
| Los Angeles 7, Boston 1 | |
| Tampa Bay 5, Texas 4 | |
| San Francisco 6, Cincinnati 3 | |
| Philadelphia 2, Chicago Cubs 2 | |
| Atlanta 4, Washington 2 | |
| St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 1 | |
| St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 1 | |
| Colorado 3, Arizona 4 | |

Saturday's games

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Minnesota at Cleveland | |
| Baltimore at Detroit | |
| Los Angeles at Houston | |
| Texas at Tampa Bay | |
| Chicago White Sox at Kansas City | |
| Los Angeles at N.Y. Mets | |
| Seattle at Oakland | |
| Atlanta at Washington | |
| St. Louis at Pittsburgh (Volquez 0-0) | |
| Philadelphia at Chicago Cubs | |
| Arizona at Colorado | |
| San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers | |

Sunday's games

| | |
|---|--|
| Baltimore (Jennings 0-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Kuroda 0-1) | |
| L.A. Angels (C.Wilson 0-1) at Houston (Correa 0-0) | |
| Oakland (Kazmir 1-0) at Minnesota (Correa 0-0) | |
| Los Angeles (T.Ross 0-1) at Cleveland (Kluber 0-1) | |
| Seattle (Schepers 0-0) at Boston (Lindor 1-0) | |
| Los Angeles (Moore 0-1) at Kansas City (Vargas 0-0) | |
| Los Angeles (Moore 0-1) at Kansas City (Vargas 0-0) | |
| Milwaukee (Lohse 0-1) at Philadelphia (Hammer 0-0) | |
| Cincinnati (Cingrani 0-0) at St. Louis (Wainwright 0-1) | |
| San Diego (T.Ross 0-1) at Cleveland (Kluber 0-1) | |

Saturday Mariners 3, Athletics 1

| Seattle | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|
| Almont cf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miller ss | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Sano 2b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Smok 1b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Hart 3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Seager 3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Seager 3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| MSndrs rf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Adley lf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Adley lf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 34 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 |

Saturday Phillies 2, Cubs 0

| Philadelphia | r | h | b | h | b |
|--------------|----|---|---|---|---|
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Revere cf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 32 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 |

Saturday Mariners 3, Athletics 1

| Seattle | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|
| Almont cf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miller ss | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Sano 2b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Smok 1b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Hart 3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Seager 3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Seager 3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| MSndrs rf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Adley lf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Adley lf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 34 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 |

Saturday Mariners 3, Athletics 1

| Seattle | r | h | b | h | b |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|---|---|---|
| Fernandez W-2-0 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Rodriguez W-1-0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Straly L-0-1 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Pomeroy | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Johnson | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Scriber | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| W-P-Hernandez, Straly, T-2.22 | A-30.29 | 35.067 | | | |

Blue Jays 4, Yankees 0

| New York | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 32 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Brewers 7, Red Sox 6 (11)

| Milwaukee | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|----|---|---|---|
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Totals | 52 | 71 | 7 | 0 | 0 |

Marlins 5, Padres 0

| San Diego | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 33 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Rays 5, Rangers 4

| Baltimore | r | h | b | h | b |
|----------------|----|---|---|---|---|
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Totals | 34 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 |

National League

| West Division | Pct | GB |
|------------------|----------|-------|
| Milwaukee | 4 1 .800 | |
| Philadelphia | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 2 3 .400 | 2 1/2 |
| Central Division | | |
| Milwaukee | 3 2 .600 | |
| Pittsburgh | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| St. Louis | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 2 3 .400 | 1 1/2 |
| East Division | | |
| San Francisco | 3 2 .600 | |
| Los Angeles | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| San Francisco | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |
| San Francisco | 3 2 .600 | 1 1/2 |

Friday's games

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Detroit 10, Baltimore 4 | |
| Milwaukee 6, Boston 1 | |
| Cleveland 7, Minnesota 2 | |
| Washington 4, Chicago White Sox 5 | |
| N.Y. Yankees 7, Toronto 3 | |
| Tampa Bay 6, Texas 1 | |
| Seattle 12, Arizona 2 | |
| Philadelphia 7, Chicago Cubs 2 | |
| San Francisco 8, L.A. Dodgers 4 | |
| San Francisco 4, Chicago White Sox 3 | |
| Seattle 3, Oakland 1 | |
| L.A. Angels 5, Houston 1 | |
| Los Angeles 7, Boston 1 | |
| Tampa Bay 5, Texas 4 | |
| San Francisco 6, Cincinnati 3 | |
| Philadelphia 2, Chicago Cubs 2 | |
| Atlanta 4, Washington 2 | |
| St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 1 | |
| St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 1 | |
| Colorado 3, Arizona 4 | |

Saturday's games

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Minnesota at Cleveland | |
| Baltimore at Detroit | |
| Los Angeles at Houston | |
| Texas at Tampa Bay | |
| Chicago White Sox at Kansas City | |
| Los Angeles at N.Y. Mets | |
| Seattle at Oakland | |
| Atlanta at Washington | |
| St. Louis at Pittsburgh (Volquez 0-0) | |
| Philadelphia at Chicago Cubs | |
| Arizona at Colorado | |
| San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers | |

Sunday's games

| | |
|---|--|
| Baltimore (Jennings 0-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Kuroda 0-1) | |
| L.A. Angels (C.Wilson 0-1) at Houston (Correa 0-0) | |
| Oakland (Kazmir 1-0) at Minnesota (Correa 0-0) | |
| Los Angeles (T.Ross 0-1) at Cleveland (Kluber 0-1) | |
| Seattle (Schepers 0-0) at Boston (Lindor 1-0) | |
| Los Angeles (Moore 0-1) at Kansas City (Vargas 0-0) | |
| Los Angeles (Moore 0-1) at Kansas City (Vargas 0-0) | |
| Milwaukee (Lohse 0-1) at Philadelphia (Hammer 0-0) | |
| Cincinnati (Cingrani 0-0) at St. Louis (Wainwright 0-1) | |
| San Diego (T.Ross 0-1) at Cleveland (Kluber 0-1) | |

Blue Jays 4, Yankees 0

| New York | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Ellsby cf | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 32 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Brewers 7, Red Sox 6 (11)

| Milwaukee | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|----|---|---|---|
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Gomez cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Totals | 52 | 71 | 7 | 0 | 0 |

Marlins 5, Padres 0

| San Diego | r | h | b | h | b |
|-----------|----|---|---|---|---|
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| ECarer ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 33 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Rays 5, Rangers 4

| Baltimore | r | h | b | h | b |
|----------------|----|---|---|---|---|
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| B.Norris L-0-1 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Totals | 34 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 |

National League

| East Division | | Pct | GB | U | LP |
|------------------|---|-----|------|-------|-------------------|
| Miami | 5 | 1 | .833 | 0 | Philips |
| Atlanta | 3 | 3 | .500 | 2 | |
| Philadelphia | 3 | 2 | .600 | 1 1/2 | Toronto |
| Washington | 2 | 3 | .400 | 1 1/2 | Dickey W-1 |
| New York | 1 | 4 | .200 | 2 1/2 | Go |
| Central Division | | Pct | GB | U | LP |
| Milwaukee | 4 | 2 | .667 | 0 | Santos S-2 |
| Pittsburgh | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1 | |
| St. Louis | 3 | 2 | .600 | 0 | HBP by Dickey (C |
| Chicago | 2 | 3 | .400 | 1 | arte), T-245, A-1 |
| Cincinnati | 1 | 4 | .200 | 2 | |
| West Division | | Pct | GB | U | LP |
| Los Angeles | 4 | 1 | .833 | 0 | |
| San Francisco | 4 | 3 | .571 | 1 1/2 | |
| Colorado | 3 | 4 | .429 | 2 | |
| San Diego | 1 | 4 | .200 | 3 | |
| Arizona | 1 | 7 | .125 | 5 | |

COLLEGE BASKETBALL



PHELAN M. EBERHACK/AP

Connecticut forward Breanna Stewart was named The Associated Press Player of the Year on Saturday.

Stewart, McGraw named AP Player, Coach of Year

By DOUG FEINBERG
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Breanna Stewart picked up right where she left off as a freshman. Connecticut's versatile star has had a stellar sophomore year.

The 6-foot-4 guard/forward earned The Associated Press Player of the Year award Saturday, becoming just the third sophomore to achieve the honor. Notre Dame's Mike McGraw was selected coach of the year for the second straight season.

The pair accepted their awards in front of a standing room only crowd that included the entire UConn and Notre Dame teams as well as Stewart's family.

"It's obviously a huge deal and I think the fact that being able to be named player of the year is awesome and I think it just shows how hard I've worked this season and the offseason," Stewart said. "But it doesn't compare to what could happen this weekend. I think this is nice, but it's a team game and we want to win a national championship."

Stewart, a unanimous All-American, got 20 votes from the 36-member national media panel that selects the weekly Top 25. Stanford's Chinye Ogburn received eight votes while Baylor's Odyssey Sims had six. Kayla McBride of Notre Dame received the other two votes.

Stewart joined former UConn star Maya Moore and Oklahoma's Courtney Paris as the only sophomores to win the award. Stewart helped the Huskies win the national championship as a freshman and has been a major reason why the Huskies are undefeated this season.

Like UConn, McGraw's Irish squad hasn't lost either, winning their first 36 games this season.

McGraw is only the second coach ever to win the award in consecutive years, joining Auriemma. West Virginia's Mike Carey was second with eight votes. Auriemma was third and South Carolina's Dawn Staley was fourth.

McGraw also was honored with the award in 2001. She didn't know until she got on the team bus to head to the arena that the Irish would be coming to watch the ceremony.

"She has been the consistent piece at Notre Dame," McBride said, "and is a big reason why we are where we are."

Even McGraw, who is in her 27th season at the school, was surprised at the success her team has had this season. Joining the Atlantic Coast Conference and graduating Skylar Diggins left a few questions for Notre Dame. With McGraw at the helm,



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

The Associated Press basketball coach of the Year, Notre Dame's Muffet McGraw, speaks to media after practice on Saturday, in Nashville, Tenn.

they answered every one of them.

"Going undefeated was not on the top of our goals for the season with what we lost," the 58-year-old McGraw said. "We had a lot of good pieces back, but we lost Skylar. It wasn't until we had the road wins over Tennessee, Maryland and Duke that I thought, wow we could have something really special here."

With four starters back, including Stewart, UConn was a heavy preseason favorite to defend its title. Stewart is a major reason why they are still unbeaten. She lead the Huskies in scoring, averaging 19.4 points to go along with 8.1 rebounds and 2.8 blocks.

She is the eighth different Connecticut player to be selected as player of the year since the award began in 1995.

Seeds: UConn last team to beat Kentucky in NCAA tournament

FROM BACK PAGE

It will be the first championship game since 1966 with two teams that weren't in the tournament the year before. The teams that year were Texas Western and Kentucky — the "Glory Road" game.

Kentucky was the preseason No. 1 this season, but the coach John Calipari's young Wildcats had fallen out of the poll before the tournament began three weeks ago. They have responded by winning a series of close tournament games and are listed as an early three-point favorite.

Connecticut was ineligible last season because of academic issues and Kentucky played in the NIT.

Here are five things to know about the NCAA championship:

1 Seeding struggle: Eighth-seeded Kentucky and seventh-seeded UConn will make NCAA final history even before the clock starts ticking Monday. It will be the highest seed total to play in the title game since they started putting numbers by the names back in 1979 — the previous high when third-seeded UConn beat eighth-seeded Butler for the 2011 title. It's also the fourth time an eighth seed has made the championship game and the first trip for a seventh seed. The Wildcats and Huskies are far from mid-major darlings. They've got rich basketball traditions and star power, including Kentucky's Julius Randle and Connecticut's Shabazz Napier. The seeding is more of a reflection of each team's struggle during part of the season. Now each team is playing its best ball. "I just don't call it low-seed magic. I don't know about magical. We all just fight, we don't let the games go, and we know no matter what that we have a chance to win so we always try to keep fighting," guard Aaron Harrison said.

2 Coaches successful at different stages: Connecticut coach Kevin Ollie is in his second season with his alma mater. Calipari is going

for his second national championship. Calipari has a 43-13 record in the NCAA tournament, including a title two years ago with Kentucky. He has also taken Massachusetts and Memphis to the NCAA tournament.

3 They stuck with UConn: Napier, Niels Giffey and Tyler Olander all were part of the Huskies' national championship season in 2011. Napier appeared in all 41 games as a freshman with the Huskies, averaging 7.8 points and three assists playing 23.8 minutes. He had four points, four rebounds and two assists in title game against Butler. Giffey also played in all 41 games, starting 10 of them, while averaging 2.2 points in 10 minutes a game. He had four points and six rebounds in the championship game. Olander started 21 of his 39 games in 2011, when he averaged 1.5 points and 1.8 rebounds a game. His role has diminished since then.

4 Common opponents: Florida's Billy Donovan and Louisville's Rick Pitino should have the best insight on the title game. They are the only coaches to face both Kentucky and Connecticut this season. The Gators topped the Wildcats three times, sweeping Kentucky for the first time in school history, and lost to the Huskies twice. UConn upset Florida 63-53 in a national semifinal Saturday four months after dumping Donovan's team on a buzzer-beater. The Cardinals dropped both meetings against Kentucky, including a 74-69 victory in the Sweet 16. Louisville beat UConn three times, including an 81-48 game in the regular season finale.

5 Rolling Wildcats: Kentucky hasn't lost an NCAA tournament game since losing to Connecticut in the 2011 semifinals. The Wildcats won the national title in 2012 and are 15-1 in the NCAA tournament over their past three appearances.



ERIC GAY/AP

Connecticut guard Ryan Boatright celebrates during the second half of Saturday's Final Four win over Florida in Arlington, Texas.

NCAA TOURNAMENT: FINAL FOUR

UConn disposes of No. 1 Florida

Huskies become first 7-seed to play for title

By JIM O'CONNELL
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Shabazz Napier looked up toward the Connecticut fans in the crowd at AT&T Stadium and held up one finger.

The Huskies had just beaten overall No. 1 seed Florida 63-53 on Saturday in the Final Four. But Napier's gesture had another meaning.

"One more to go," the first-team All-American said.

The win got them into Monday night's title game against Kentucky and it was as good an effort as any team came up with this season against the Gators, who came in having won 30 straight games, a streak that started after a loss to the Huskies four months ago.

"We have been in a lot of dog fights," Napier said. "We are just an experienced group. We believe in each other and continue to believe in each other... We are going to win. That is what we do."

The Gators lost only three times this season — once to Wisconsin in the second game of the season and twice to the Huskies. The first time was on Dec. 2 when a foul-line jumper at the buzzer by Napier gave UConn a 65-64 victory.

They didn't have to wait that long to know they had this one.

The Huskies, the seventh seed in the East Regional, will meet Kentucky, the eighth seed in the Midwest, on Monday night. There have only been two No. 8 seeds to reach the championship game since the field expanded in 1985 — Villanova in 1985 and Butler in 2011. Connecticut is the first No. 7 seed to reach the title game.

Napier helped seal this game

with about two minutes to play when he made two free throws for a 59-47 lead. That margin was the deficit the Huskies (31-8) faced in the opening minutes after a cold shooting start.

"I knew we was going to get back in the game. They knew we was going to get back in the game," second-year coach Kevin Ollie said. "We live and die on defense and hopefully everybody understands that."

With Ollie in a defensive stance himself most of the game, the Huskies sidetracked the Florida offense by shutting down point guard Scottie Wilbekin and three-point specialist Michael Frazier II, who combined for seven points.

"UConn was very good with their pressure on our guards and we didn't convert points," Florida coach Billy Donovan said. "They scored a lot on us well. So all the credit goes to them."

The Huskies were impressive on offense, shooting 55.8 percent (24-for-43) from the field against a team that allowed opponents to shoot 39.9 percent this season.

"Whomever I put in the game, it was positive and they were productive," Ollie said.

DeAndre Daniels had 20 points and 10 rebounds for Connecticut, and it was his two three-pointers in a span of 1:43 that helped ignite the Huskies after they had fallen behind 16-4.

"DeAndre was huge for us," Ollie said. "He stepped up and really rebounded for us and was pretty much unstoppable."

Napier, who leads the team in almost every category, finished with 12 points and six assists. He definitely got the better of Wil-



ERIC GAVIAP

Connecticut guard Shabazz Napier, left, drives past Florida forward Casey Prather during the second half of Saturday's Final Four semifinal game. Napier had 12 points and six assists in the Huskies' victory. They play Kentucky in Monday's championship game.

bekin in a matchup of senior point guards, both conference players of the year.

Napier had two key second-half steals on Wilbekin, both of which led to UConn baskets. Wilbekin was bothered by cramps throughout the game.

Patric Younger had 19 points for Florida (36-3), which had won all of its NCAA tournament games by at least 10 points. The Gators shot just 38.8 percent from the field (19 of 49), well off their 46.1 percent average.

"Once they got their defense set, I thought we had a hard time dealing with their pressure up top," Donovan said.

Florida's defense — which was No. 3 in the nation — was suffocating early and the Gators took a 16-4 lead with a 7-0 run that was capped by a drive by Wilbekin with 9:47 to play.

The Huskies suddenly found their shooting touch. Connecticut made four straight shots and three of them were from beyond the three-point line — two by Daniels and another by Ryan Boatright. A drive by Napier gave the Huskies the lead for good, 23-22 with 2:20 left in the half.

In the second half, the Huskies stretched the lead to 59-47 with 2:04 left, turning the 12-point deficit into a 12-point lead.

Guards flounder for Gators

By MARK LONG
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — With the game winding down and his team facing a double-digit deficit, Florida coach Billy Donovan



turned to an NCAA official sitting courtside and jokingly asked if they could start over.

Well, maybe he wasn't kidding.

The Gators, the last No. 1 seed left in the NCAA tournament, played their worst game of the season on college basketball's biggest stage Saturday. And the team's backcourt had a lot to do with it.

Southeastern Conference player of the year Scottie Wilbekin and fellow guards Michael Frazier II and Kasey Hill struggled in a 63-53 loss to Connecticut in an NCAA semifinal. It ended Florida's season and school-record, 30-game winning streak.

"They were really disruptive with what they did to our offensive flow," said Wilbekin, who dealt with leg cramps in the second half. "They made us

disoriented in our offense in a lot and we ended up in late-clock situations, having to force something to do it. It was one of our worst offensive-execution games of the seasons."

Wilbekin finished with four points and just one assist for the Gators (36-3).

"The difference in the game was Scottie Wilbekin couldn't live in the lane like he has all year long for us," Donovan said. "Every time we needed a big shot or a big play, whether against Arkansas or UCLA, he was in the lane."

Frazier hit a three-pointer off the opening tip, but did little else the rest of the way. Hill scored seven points and was in foul trouble for much of the game.

On the defensive end, the three guards were no match for UConn's Shabazz Napier and Ryan Boatright. The Huskies duo combined for 25 points, nine rebounds and nine assists.

"We tried to speed them up in the press, but they were able to get what they wanted on offense," Hill said. "And we weren't able to get what we wanted offensively."

As the final seconds ticked off, Florida's four seniors huddled together for a few words and then trudged off the court. It wasn't the way they expected to end the season, especially after sweeping the SEC and setting school and league records along the way.

"It's the time of the worst feelings I've ever felt," Florida guard/forward Casey Prather said.

Role players key in Huskies' semifinal win

By JOHN MARSHALL
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Connecticut's 2011 national championship has been characterized as a one-man effort by Kemba Walker. Good as he was, he still needed help from teammates Jeremy Lamb, Alex Oriakhi and Shabazz Napier.

Now that it's Napier's turn, the same gotta-have-help method has applied — this time with DeAndre Daniels and Ryan Boatright taking turns at the wheel.

Daniels carried UConn out of an early funk, Boatright bullied around Florida's guard at both ends and the Huskies are headed back to the national championship game after a 63-53 victory over the Gators in the Final Four

Saturday night.

Daniels had 20 points on 9-of-14 shooting and 10 rebounds and Boatright finished with 13 points to help finish off Florida's 30-game winning streak and send the No. 7 Huskies into Monday's title game against Kentucky.

Napier, who leads the team in almost every category, finished with 12 points and six assists. He definitely got the better of Wil-

Daniels, the talented-but-sometimes-inconsistent forward, helped the Huskies (31-8) dig out of 7-0 and 16-4 holes by scoring inside and out. He also hit a couple of big shots late to prevent the Gators (36-3) from rallying.

Boatright was like a bulldog all night, consistently getting inside Florida's defense and combining with Napier to hold ailing Gators star Scottie Wilbekin (cramps) to four points and one assist.

"I don't know if you all keep thinking it's a one-man team, but it's not," UConn coach Kevin Ollie said. "Shabazz is the first one to tell you and I keep telling everybody it's not just him."

Spurred by a conversation with former UConn coach Jim Calhoun before the national semifinal, Daniels was at his active best, sailing in for a dunk during an 11-0 run and dropping in a pair of three-pointers in the first half.

Daniels continued to be a matchup problem for Florida in the second half, keeping the Gators at bay, including a long jumper that put the Huskies up 57-47 with 2½ minutes left.

"I talked to Coach Calhoun and he was like, 'Man, nobody is talking about you,'" Daniels said. "All I said was not to worry about it because everybody was going to be talking about me after today."

Boatright, too.



TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

Connecticut forward DeAndre Daniels scored 20 points and helped dig the Huskies out of an early hole to Florida.



NCAA TOURNAMENT

Harrison lifts Wildcats with late shot again

Kentucky freshman hits game-winner against Wisconsin to make title game

By **EDDIE PELLIS**
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — No, this was not an instant replay, though it certainly is turning into a highlight loop that Aaron Harrison and his Kentucky teammates could get used to watching.

Harrison took a pass from his twin brother, Andrew, spotted up from NBA range and watched the ball rattle in for the lead with 5.7 seconds left Saturday night to lift the Wildcats to a 74-73 victory over Wisconsin in the Final Four.

It was a near carbon copy of his game-winner last weekend in the regional final against Michigan. It was every bit as big as the three he made the game before that to help Kentucky take the lead for good in the Sweet 16 against Louisville.

"You can't be scared to miss and you want to be that guy that wants to take the big shots," Aaron Harrison said.

"He has that clutch gene," Wisconsin's Sam Dekker said.

Traevon Jackson had a last-second shot to try to beat the Wildcats (29-10), but the desperation jumper rimmed out, and once again Harrison found himself at the bottom of a dog pile at center court. Sophomore Alex Poythress' leg bent backward in the scrum. He was icing his left knee afterward, but said he'd be OK for Monday's final.

Eighth-seeded Kentucky will play seventh-seeded UConn, the highest seed total to play for the title since they started putting numbers by the names back in 1979. The Wildcats, who missed March Madness last year, haven't lost a tournament game since the 2011 semifinal against UConn.

"I know how good they are, but I don't know how they play," Kentucky coach John Calipari said of his next opponent.

Second-seeded Wisconsin (30-8) set a Final Four record by going 95 percent from the free-throw line — 19-for-20. But that one miss cost the Badgers dearly. Jackson got Andrew Harrison to jump into him while attempting a three-pointer with 16.4 seconds left. His first free throw rimmed out, and — after he made the next two — Wisconsin had a 73-71 lead and Kentucky had the ball.

Any doubt where it was going? "Coach said he wanted me to take the shot, my teammates have confidence in me, and I just fed off that," Harrison said.

Against Louisville in the regional semifinal, Harrison was open in the corner when Julius Randle found him. He hit the go-ahead three with 39.1 seconds left on the way to a 74-69 win.

Two nights later, there were 2.3 seconds on the clock and Harrison was a few steps right of where he was Saturday when he took the pass from his brother. Michigan's Caris LeVert hit Harrison's hand as he shot from about 24 feet but the ball went in anyway. After that one, the freshman calmly backpedaled before his teammates reached him to congratulate.

This time, it was Josh Gasser in his face at around 25 feet — a big step back from where the NBA line would be. The ball clanged in and Harrison turned around and raised his hands over his head before running to the other end of the court.

A few minutes later, he was hugging his mom in the stands.

"He was pretty deep out there,"



HARRY E. WALKER/MCT

Kentucky's Aaron Harrison, left, shoots a three-pointer over Wisconsin's Josh Gasser with 5.7 seconds remaining Saturday to seal the Wildcats' 74-73 victory in the Final Four in Arlington, Texas.

Gasser said. "He hadn't really looked to pull up for a shot the entire game. I saw him start to rise up, and I tried to contest the best I could. I thought I did a good job, but he made another good shot."

It was Harrison's only attempt from three all night; the Wildcats went only 2-for-5 as a team.

James Young went to the rim hard in the first half and led Kentucky with 17 points. Randle finished with 16, but only five boards to snap his string of three straight double-doubles.

But Kentucky did damage in other ways on the inside, finding the answer for Wisconsin's de-

featuring 7-footer, Frank Kaminsky, who was held to eight points and five rebounds.

Ben Brust and Dekker had 15 each for the Badgers, who came up a game short of their first appearance in the final since 1941.

Instead, it's Kentucky going for its ninth national title and second in three years, with an almost completely rebuilt roster from 2012. It's the way Calipari does it, like it or not, and it hasn't all been easy sailing. The team that was ranked first in the preseason poll fell out of it completely for the start of March Madness.

Only then, did the Wildcats

start playing to their potential.

"They know I believe in them. Aaron knows," Calipari said. "If you've watched us, we have a bunch of stars on this team."

Harrison is the biggest of them in this tournament. If he chooses to leave after Monday, he'll have first-round potential, though it won't be his final numbers in this game — eight points, three rebounds — that will impress the scouts as much as his final shot.

"He was smiling, like he knew he was going to make it," Andrew Harrison said. "He's a big-time player. I've never seen anything like it."

Badgers' memorable season comes to an end

By **GENARO C. ARMAS**
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — A record night at the foul line had Wisconsin seconds away from a trip to the national title game.

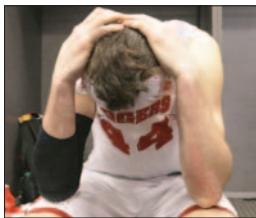
What the Badgers needed was perfection.

Ben Brust and Sam Dekker each scored 15 points, but Traevon Jackson missed a free throw with 16 seconds left and Wisconsin was left stunned after Aaron Harrison's three from the wing with 5.7 seconds to play gave Kentucky a 74-73.

It was the only free throw the Badgers missed all game, finishing a Final Four record 95 percent from the line, 19 of 20.

"That's what you're going to get in the Final Four: a one-possession battle and unfortunately it just didn't fall our way," Brust said.

Jackson missed a jumper at the buzzer and the Badgers fell short in their quest for the school's first national title since 1941. Instead, the Wildcats ended one of the most successful seasons in Wisconsin



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Wisconsin forward Frank Kaminsky reacts in the locker room after his team's 74-73 loss to Kentucky on Saturday night.

history, starting with a 16-game winning streak and culminating at the Final Four. There were tears and comforting hugs all around the locker room after the game.

"Our guys certainly had nothing to hang their heads about," coach Bo Ryan said.

"We played hard, we played smart all season. That's how we ended up here."

Balanced scoring, bench contributions and clutch plays carried them into April, too. Sporting a little more firepower than the typical Wisconsin team under Ryan, the Badgers overcame uncharacteristic defensive shortcomings at times to get to the Final Four for the first time since 2000.

This time, though, Wisconsin (30-8) lost out in another test of basketball tempos. Board-crashing Kentucky (29-10) dominated the paint and overcame the patient Badgers' eight threes.

The Badgers withstood wave after wave of Kentucky players swooping in for dunks and tip-ins, only to get done in by a three-pointer from Harrison from well beyond the arc at 25 feet.

Until then, the game still seemed to be going their way in spite of the overwhelming edge in athleticism for Kentucky and their band of NBA-bound talent. The Wildcats had a 46-24 advantage on points in the paint.

Ryan had the final minute set up perfectly — a tight game with the ball in the

hands of Jackson, the junior he's trusted in such situations for countless games.

Jackson did his job in drawing a foul while attempting a three.

Missed the first, hit the next two. It was just enough of an opening for Harrison to hit his game-winner.

One final chance to atone for the missed foul shot went away.

"I thought it was in. We had other ... opportunities," Jackson said. "But the last shot was exactly what I wanted. I had him on his heels and got a good look."

The Badgers had effectively answered an earlier Kentucky punch that left them trailing by eight early in the second half.

Back-and-forth the teams went down the stretch in a tense and chippy game that wasn't decided until the last second.

Reserve point guard Bronson Koenig scored 11 in filling in for foul-plagued Jackson in the first half. Frank Kaminsky was held to eight points — 10 below his tournament average — but chipped in four offensive rebounds that helped keep several possessions alive.

SPORTS



Boston strong

Bruins top Flyers to lock down top seed in East | NHL roundup, Page 22

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Sown seeds

No. 7 and No. 8 will meet in historic final

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas All those Kentucky freshmen against a Connecticut team already with a few championship rings.

After yet another game-winning shot from Aaron Harrison, the young Wildcats will have the first all-freshman starting lineup in an NCAA title game since Michigan's Fab Five in 1992.

The Huskies are back in the title game for the second time in four years, providing a chance for a second ring for three seniors who remained even after coach Jim Calhoun's retirement and being ineligible to play in the NCAA tournament last season



Connecticut (31-8)
vs. Kentucky (29-10)
AFN-Sports
3 a.m. Tuesday CET
10 a.m. Tuesday JKT

under coach Kevin Ollie.

Eighth-seeded Kentucky (29-10) plays seventh-seeded Connecticut (31-8) Monday night.

SEE SEEDS ON PAGE 29



PHOTOS BY DAVID J. PHILLIP, ABOVE, AND ERIC GAY, LEFT/AP

Kentucky guard Aaron Harrison, above, played hero again, hitting a three-pointer with just seconds remaining on Saturday to lift the eighth-seeded Wildcats over Wisconsin, 74-73, and into the NCAA championship game. There they will meet No. 7-seeded UConn and guard Ryan Boatright, left, receiving a hug from his mother, Tanesha Boatright, after the Huskies took down overall No. 1 seed Florida 63-53 in the first semifinal game at Arlington, Texas on Saturday, ending the Gators' 30-game winning streak.

Jefferson leads Bobcats to OT win, playoffs | Page 24



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